



Daily Report

East Asia

FBIS-EAS-87-249
Tuesday
29 December 1987

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CONTENTS

29 December 1987

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

| | |
|--|---|
| Officials Note Increase in U.S. Subsidies | 1 |
| Takeshita Volunteers To Act as ROK Mediator [YONHAP] | 1 |
| Prime Minister To Visit PRC Next Autumn | 2 |
| Culture Pact Ratifications Exchanged With USSR | 2 |
| Shiogama Chosen as Port-of-Call for Soviets | 2 |
| MITI Urges Cut in Imports of Iranian Oil | 2 |
| Government Adopts Expansionary 1988 Budget | 2 |
| Breakdown of 1988 Budget | 3 |
| Funds Restored for ASW Center | 4 |
| Regular Diet Session Opens 28 December | 5 |

North Korea

| | |
|--|----|
| Reagan Remarks on Troops in South Viewed [NODONG SINMUN 9 Dec] | 5 |
| Paper on South's Christmas Message to Troops | 6 |
| U.S. Accused of 'Aerial Espionage' Off Kosong | 6 |
| Kim Il-song Greeted Romania's Ceausescu | 6 |
| Daily Criticizes Abe's Visit to South | 7 |
| Daily Criticizes Chon's 'Inspection' of Front | 7 |
| Comments on Chon's Remarks | 7 |
| Paper on No's Views on Democratic Development | 8 |
| Troop Reduction Disproves South's Propaganda | 9 |
| Message Denounces South's Anti-North Campaign | 10 |
| Anti-Japanese Revolutionary Spirit Encouraged | 10 |
| NODONG SINMUN Reviews WPK Line, Policy | 10 |
| SKNDF Statement on Election Result in South [VNS] | 11 |
| SKNDF Statement Denounces Jamming of VNS [VNS] | 13 |

South Korea

| | |
|--|----|
| Soviet Delegation Visit Termed 'Good Sign' [THE KOREA TIMES 29 Dec] | 14 |
| Kim Chong-pil Not Opposed to U.S.-North Talks [THE KOREA TIMES 26 Dec] | 15 |
| Trade Minister To Meet U.S. Counterpart [THE KOREA HERALD 27 Dec] | 15 |
| DJP Denies Report of No's PRC Visit | 15 |
| PRC To Open Trade Office After Olympics [THE KOREA HERALD 25 Dec] | 16 |
| Car Makers Seek To Enter Japanese Market | 16 |
| Exports Expected To Reach \$47 Billion | 16 |
| Government Sets Monthly Minimum Wage Level [THE KOREA TIMES 26 Dec] | 16 |
| Labor Leaders Not Satisfied [THE KOREA HERALD 27 Dec] | 17 |
| President Chon Addresses Cabinet Session [THE KOREA TIMES 29 Dec] | 18 |
| No Pledges To Quit If Public's Confidence Lost [THE KOREAN TIMES 25 Dec] | 18 |
| Forum Outlines New Government's Tasks [THE KOREA TIMES 29 Dec] | 19 |
| Kim Yong-sam on Assembly Election Position [THE KOREA TIMES 26 Dec] | 20 |
| Kim Yong-sam Rejects Alliance With PPD [THE KOREA HERALD 26 Dec] | 21 |
| Junior Opposition Seek To Form New Party [THE KOREA TIMES 25 Dec] | 21 |
| Dissidents Form New United Organization [TONG-A ILBO 28 Dec] | 21 |
| RDP Rejects Election Committee Statement [THE KOREA TIMES 25 Dec] | 22 |
| RDP Issues Report Alleges Election Fraud [THE KOREA TIMES 29 Dec] | 22 |
| PPD Files Complaints Over Election Fraud [THE KOREA HERALD 27 Dec] | 22 |
| DJP Denies Vote Fraud Allegations [THE KOREA HERALD 29 Dec] | 22 |

| | |
|---|----|
| Presidential Election Returns by County, District | 23 |
|---|----|

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Burma

| | |
|---|----|
| Combat Activities of People's, Shan Armies [VOPB] | 29 |
| Briefs | 29 |
| FRG Assistance | 29 |

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

| | |
|--|----|
| Minister on Soviet Presence in Afghanistan | 29 |
| Deputy Home Minister on New CPM Strategy [BERITA HARIAN 7 Dec] | 29 |
| Briefs | 30 |
| Saudi Envoy Credentials | 30 |

Singapore

| | |
|---|----|
| Lee Kuan Yew Responses to Press Criticism | 30 |
|---|----|

Cambodia

| | |
|--|----|
| Afghan President Arrives 29 December | 30 |
| SPK Welcomes Najibullah | 31 |
| Second Indochinese Labor Conference Held | 31 |
| SRV, Lao Delegations Arrive | 31 |
| Meeting Opens | 31 |
| Hun Sen Reassumes Foreign Minister's Post | 32 |
| KPRP Political Bureau Meeting Reported | 32 |
| Chea Sim, Others at KUFNCD Meeting | 32 |
| VODK Appeals to Cambodian Soldiers To Mutiny | 33 |

Laos

| | |
|--|----|
| Chebrikov Arrives; Meets Kaysone Phomvihane | 34 |
| Further Reaction to Reported Thai Attacks | 35 |
| Spokesman Cited on Violations | 35 |
| Chemical Weapons Use Charged | 36 |
| KPL Report on Chemical Weapons | 36 |
| Radio Reports on Attacks | 36 |
| Thai Troops Continue Shelling | 37 |
| Thai Envoy Summoned | 37 |
| Vientiane Holds Rally | 37 |
| Envoy Meets UN Chief | 38 |
| Soviet Planning Delegation Ends Visit | 39 |
| Article Hails Capture of SRV Infiltrators | 39 |
| Sali Vongkhamsoo Meets Bulgarian Delegation | 40 |
| Khamphai Boupha Speaks on Foreign Policy | 40 |
| Kaysone Phomvihane Visits Savannakhet | 40 |
| Nouhak Phoumsavan at District Party Congress | 41 |

Philippines

| | |
|---|----|
| Rebels Plan Truce; Disclose U.S. Bases Plan [AFP] | 41 |
| Decision on Military Bases Possible in 1988 | 42 |
| Japan Grants \$350 Million in Loans | 42 |
| Korean Embassy Requests Aid to Free Hostages | 42 |
| Sultanate's Heirs To Pursue Sabah Claim [AFP] | 42 |

| | |
|--|----|
| Muslim Guerrilla Leader Killed in Zamboanga | 42 |
| Zamboanga del Norte Mayoral Candidate Killed | 42 |
| PC-INP To Guard Metro Manila Precincts | 43 |
| Polls in Sulu, Tawi-Tawi Moved to February | 43 |
| Cordillera Rebel Group Plans To Oust Leader | 43 |
| KMU Admits Suffering Organizational Setbacks | 43 |
| Aquino Answers Listeners' Questions | 44 |
| Ramos Urges Police, Firemen Pay Hike | 45 |
| Ramos Warns Against New Year Weapons Firing [MANILA BULLETIN 27 Dec] | 45 |
| Retirement, Other Military Problems Discussed [MANILA BULLETIN 27 Dec] | 46 |
| Government To Pursue New Monetary Policy | 46 |
| Government Spokesman Views 1988 Prospects | 46 |
| Minister Proposes 'Guided Democracy' System [AFP] | 47 |

Thailand

| | |
|--|----|
| Reportage on Border Dispute With Laos | 47 |
| Foreign Minister Comments | 47 |
| Call for Lao Withdrawal [BANGKOK POST 29 Dec] | 48 |
| Briefing on Border Situation | 48 |
| Laos Said Threatening Attack [THE NATION 29 Dec] | 48 |
| NATION Comments [29 Dec] | 49 |
| More Boat People Land With Smugglers Aid [BANGKOK POST 29 Dec] | 50 |

Vietnam

| | |
|---|----|
| Excerpts From Vo Van Kiet Economic Report | 51 |
| Reportage on National Assembly Session | 53 |
| Second Day of Activities | 53 |
| Deputies Hold Group Discussion | 53 |
| Plenary Meeting Held | 53 |
| Radio Carries Communique No 3 | 53 |
| Session Ends 29 December | 54 |
| Decree on Registration, Certification Fees [NHAN DAN 11 Dec] | 54 |
| Catholic Committee Greets Believers | 54 |
| Development of USSR Cooperation Overlooked | 54 |
| Joint Declaration on Afghan President's Visit | 55 |
| Foreign Ministry Holds News Conference | 55 |
| Deputy Minister Meets PLO Representative | 56 |
| NHAN DAN on Postelection Violence in ROK | 56 |
| Pham Hung Receives Japanese Envoy 23 December | 56 |
| Vo Chi Cong Sends Condolences to Indonesia | 56 |
| Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach Visits Albania [cross-reference] | 56 |

Japan

Officials Note Increase in U.S. Subsidies

OW280253 Tokyo KYODO in English 0107 GMT
28 Dec 87

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 28 KYODO—Japan, one of the world's biggest importers of farm products, has urged its trading partners to freeze export subsidies and then phase them out to deescalate excessive competition among exporting countries.

Japan is also proposing that a gradual reduction of import curbs be considered in new multilateral talks on agricultural trade, government officials said Monday.

They said the proposals were contained in a report that Japan presented to a group of countries which is negotiating ways to liberalize farm trade under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The Japanese report attributed the mounting surpluses of farm products in some GATT countries to an escalation of competition among agricultural exporters and urged them to drop their export subsidy programs.

Japan, however, defended its own import curbs on processed cheese, fruit juice and 10 other agricultural products.

Earlier this month, Japan prevented the approval of a GATT panel report calling for Japan to dismantle its import regulations on 10 of the 12 items.

In submitting the proposal to GATT member countries, Japan said it is seeking an immediate halt to export subsidies by the United States, the European Community and other leading farm producers.

The U.S. proposal to the GATT calls for a step-by-step removal of export subsidies and import barriers over a 10-year period.

Japanese officials said U.S. farm subsidies posted a 9.6-fold increase between 1980 and 1986 and the EC doubled its subsidies in that time.

During the same seven-year period, they said, Japan cut its agricultural budget by 17 percent and farm price maintenance appropriations by 37 percent.

Takeshita Volunteers To Act as ROK Mediator

SK290936 Seoul YONHAP in English
0926 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita has reiterated his willingness to serve as a mediator in helping South Korea improve its relations with China and the Soviet Union.

In a written interview published Tuesday by the leading Seoul newspaper TONG-A ILBO, Takeshita also said he will work on shaping an international environment favorable to inter-Korean dialogue.

Takeshita had already expressed his willingness to help South Korea improve its relations with China upon a request by President-elect No Tae-u.

Concerning Japan's relaxed attitude toward North Korea, a position indicated by former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, Takeshita emphasized that the basic policy of Japan is to maintain and develop the friendly cooperative relations with South Korea.

Japan will handle its relations with North Korea with discipline from an independent position and no changes will be made in the future with this policy, he said.

Takeshita was inaugurated on Nov. 16 succeeding Nakasone.

On Japan's role for stability in Northeast Asia, Takeshita said, under its peace constitution, Japan will make efforts for more efficient operation of the U.S.-Japan defense system while consolidating its self-defense capabilities.

Japan's defense spending for next year is scaled at more than 3.7 trillion yen, a 5.2 percent rise from this year, raising concern among its Asian neighbors over the possible resurgence of a militaristic Japan.

Commenting on the chronic trade imbalance between Japan and South Korea, Takeshita placed the blame on structural problems explaining that as South Korea imports intermediate goods and capital goods from Japan and exports finished products to third countries, Korea's export increases bring about a rise in imports from Japan.

He emphasized the need for South Korea to expand and reorganize its industrial foundation and said Japan is cooperating in those efforts.

Expressing his hope that the friendly ties between Japan and South Korea would develop on a more stable and popular basis on the occasion of South Korea's peaceful change of government, Takeshita said he will expand exchanges with South Korea in such wide-ranging fields as culture and sports.

He also pledged all possible support so that the Olympic games in Seoul next year are successful with all nations in the world participating regardless of their political systems or ideologies.

Prime Minister To Visit PRC Next Autumn

OW250507 Tokyo KYODO in English 0004 GMT
25 Dec 87

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 25 KYODO—Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita will visit China next autumn to mark the 10th anniversary of the Japan-China peace and friendship treaty, government sources said Friday.

A detailed itinerary for Takeshita's China visit will be set later through diplomatic channels between Japan and China.

Takeshita's China visit was originally planned for next March but was rescheduled for autumn due to circumstances on both sides, the sources said.

A top Foreign Ministry official also said the prime minister's China visit will be a goodwill trip rather than a working visit.

Culture Pact Ratifications Exchanged With USSR

OW250531 Tokyo KYODO in English 0105 GMT
25 Dec 87

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 25 KYODO—Japan and the Soviet Union Friday exchanged ratifications of a bilateral agreement to promote cultural exchanges between the two countries.

The ratifications were exchanged between Japanese Foreign Minister Sosuke Uno and Soviet Ambassador to Japan Nikolay Solovyev at the Foreign Ministry here.

The agreement was signed in Moscow in May last year between then Japanese Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze.

Under the agreement based on principles of reciprocity, the two countries will give exhibitions and concerts, exchange scholars and researchers and hold other cultural exchanges.

Shiogama Chosen as Port-of-Call for Soviets

OW261247 Tokyo KYODO in English 1207 GMT
26 Dec 87

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 26 KYODO—The Fisheries Agency has picked Shiogama, a port on the Pacific coast in Miyagi Prefecture, northeast Japan, as the place where Soviet fishing boats will be allowed to make calls for crew rest and replenishment.

The agency will make a final decision probably Monday after it gets approval from the Foreign Ministry, Defense Agency, police and other related offices, agency sources said Saturday.

The agency's selection of Shiogama port followed a broad agreement Japan and the Soviet Union reached Friday in negotiations in Moscow on fishing operations in each other's 200-mile zone in 1988.

Agency chief Goroku Satake met here with Gov. Soichiro Yamamoto of Miyagi Prefecture Thursday evening to brief him about the Moscow negotiations and seek his agreement on the selection of Shiogama port for the Soviet port calls. The governor, however, refused to accept the selection.

The government has promised to notify the Moscow Government of a selected port and conditions for port calls by the end of this month.

Meanwhile, the Miyagi Prefectural assembly in a meeting of senior party representatives decided Saturday to appeal to the Fisheries Agency and other government offices not to select Shiogama as the port for Soviet fishing crews.

Japanese port cities are reluctant to be selected mainly because possible disturbances by Japanese rightists who oppose such port calls by Soviet fishing boats.

MITI Urges Cut in Imports of Iranian Oil

OW251303 Tokyo KYODO in English 1017 GMT
25 Dec 87

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 25 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) has urged Japanese oil importers to restrict their purchases of Iranian crude oil in January to around 70 percent of their current contract volume, industry sources said Friday.

The request followed a delay in negotiations over contract terms for January imports stemming from a U.S. ban on Iranian oil purchases, the sources said.

MITI unofficially called on Japanese oil firms and trading companies to limit Iranian crude purchases to a total of 210,000 barrels a day in January, 30 percent less than the current contract level of 300,000 barrels, the sources said.

Iran is seeking to conclude long-term contracts again for supplies in and after February, they added.

Government Adopts Expansionary 1988 Budget

OW281035 Tokyo KYODO in English 1027 GMT
28 Dec 87

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 28 KYODO—The government adopted an expansionary fiscal 1988 budget Monday, putting emphasis on increased defense and overseas economic cooperation spending in line with Japan's international commitments.

The government plan, approved at an extraordinary cabinet meeting, estimated outlays of 56,699.7 billion yen in the general account, up 4.8 percent from the original fiscal 1987 budget.

The budget, aiming both at domestic demand expansion and ending budgetary dependence on deficit-covering bonds by fiscal 1990, represented the largest year-on-year advance in six years.

It was in sharp contrast to the austere original fiscal 1987 budget which provided no advance in overall government spending.

Among the general account, general expenditures or actual fiscal spending totaled 32,982.1 billion yen, up 1.2 percent from the original fiscal 1987 plan, marking the first year-on-year increase in six years.

The general account consists of three items—general expenditures or net government spending, debt-servicing expenses and tax revenues to local governments.

The budget set aside outlays of 3,700.3 billion yen in defense expenses, up 5.2 percent from a year earlier or 1.013 percent of Japan's estimated nominal gross national product (GNP).

Officials of the Defense Agency and the Finance Ministry agreed to upgrade defense spending which was originally drafted a week ago as totaling 3,670.6 billion yen, up 4.4 percent or 1.005 percent of the GNP estimates.

Outlays for official development assistance (ODA), a major part of foreign aid aimed at helping the economies of developing nations, were estimated at around 701 billion yen for a rise of some 6.5 percent from a year ago.

The draft budget had estimated ODA spending at around 690 billion yen or up some 5 percent.

The ODA's budget growth would be substantially larger than the government's estimated nominal GNP growth rate of 4.8 percent in fiscal 1988, starting next April, to show Japan's positive stance toward the program.

The budget also features a sharp 19.7 percent year-on-year increase in spending for public works at 7,282 billion yen to help support domestic demand growth.

The government will utilize the 1.2 trillion yen it earned through the sale of its Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT) shares for public works projects.

The government also appropriated 29,614 billion yen for the fiscal investment and loan program, up 9.4 percent from a year ago, more than doubling the amount of untied loans by the Export-Import Bank of Japan to 402 billion yen.

The program, financed by government-controlled funds such as postal savings and public pension funds, is often called the second budget because its outlays are not consolidated with general account expenditures but cover major public works projects.

On the revenue side, the government expected tax receipts to rise a sharp 9.5 percent from a year ago to 45,090 billion yen, to be backed by favorable corporate and fixed property tax receipts.

The government decided to cut back on the issuance of deficit-covering bonds for fiscal 1988 by 1,659 billion yen from a year ago to 3,321 billion yen, limiting new issues of national bonds to total 8,841 billion yen.

The ratio of outstanding government bonds to the general account will be 15.6 percent, the lowest level since fiscal 1975 when the government first issued deficit-covering bonds.

Breakdown of 1988 Budget

OW281045 Tokyo KYODO in English 1038 GMT 28 Dec 87

["Table of Fiscal 1988 National Budget"—KYODO headline]

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 28 KYODO—The following is a table of the fiscal 1988 budget finalized by the government Monday (figures are in millions of yen and year-on-year changes).

(Revenue)

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------|---------|
| Tax and stamp receipts | 45,090,000 | 9.5 |
| Other revenues | 2,768,714 | 15.1 |
| (NTT proceeds—1,300,000) | (—) | |
| National bonds | 8,841,000 | (-)15.8 |
| Total | 56,699,714 | 4.8 |

(Expenditures)

| | | |
|--|------------|-----|
| National debt expenses | 11,511,987 | 1.6 |
| Distribution of local allocation tax | 10,905,620 | 7.1 |
| Carry-over to special account (NTT proceeds) | 1,300,000 | — |
| General expenditures | 32,982,107 | 1.2 |
| Total | 56,699,714 | 4.8 |

(Breakdown of general expenditures)

| | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|---------|
| Social security | 10,384,474 | 2.9 |
| Education and science | 4,858,067 | 0.2 |
| Pensions and others | 1,879,825 | (-)0.8 |
| National defense | 3,700,328 | 5.2 |
| Public works | 6,017,334 | 0.0 |
| Disaster reconstruction | 65,078 | 0.0 |
| Economic cooperation | 682,180 | 5.1 |
| Measures for small business | 195,249 | (-)1.1 |
| Energy measures | 461,625 | (-)6.8 |
| Foodstuff control | 448,169 | (-)17.1 |
| Other expenses | 3,939,778 | 0.6 |
| Reserves | 350,000 | 0.0 |
| Total | 32,982,107 | 1.2 |

Funds Restored for ASW Center
OW270821 Tokyo KYODO in English 0706 GMT
27 Dec 87

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 27 KYODO—The Finance Ministry has agreed to restore in the fiscal 1988 state budget an earlier-dropped appropriation of 50 million yen for the projected construction of an antisubmarine warfare (ASW) center to enhance Japan's submarine detection capability, ministry sources said Sunday.

In line with Japan's pledge to improve its antisubmarine capabilities, the ministry also agreed to restore the cut of additional 8.5 billion yen for the construction of the ASW center. They said, however, the actual disbursement of the 8.5 billion yen portion will be conducted in the 1989 fiscal year or afterward, they said.

The decision came amid the tough bargaining Saturday afternoon between the ministry's Budget Bureau and the Defense Agency, they said.

Japan pledged last July to strengthen its submarine detection capability to quell U.S. anger over the illicit sale of sophisticated propeller-milling machines to Moscow by Toshiba Machine Co., a subsidiary of Toshiba Corp.

The government is currently in the process of finalizing the 1988 state budget as various government ministries and agencies press the Finance Ministry to restore funds cut from their initial allocation requests.

Meanwhile, Cabinet ministers and the Finance Ministry engaged in negotiations Sunday afternoon over whether or not the ministry should approve an appropriation for the multibillion-dollar construction project of 1,440-kilometers of five new bullet train lines, ministry sources said.

They also discussed the amount of farm subsidies the government should provide to increase production of high-quality rice, they said.

The ministry is trying to hold down the size of farm subsidies despite pressure from the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) lawmakers who draw extensive support from rural farming constituencies, they said.

Determined to drop any appropriation for the bullet train line project in view of serious state revenue shortfalls, the ministry is also resisting pressure from those LDP lawmakers who were elected from constituencies expected to benefit from the railway construction project, they said.

Final conclusions on these disputed appropriations will be reached at a meeting expected to be held Sunday midnight between LDP Secretary General Shintaro Abe, LDP Executive Council Chairman Masayoshi Ito and LDP Policy Affairs Research Council Chairman Michio Watanabe, LDP sources said.

The cabinet will give its final approval of the budget plan Monday afternoon in accordance with the outcome of the LDP Executive meeting and will introduce the package in an ordinary session of the Diet in January for approval before the 1988 fiscal year starts next April, they said.

Regular Diet Session Opens 28 December
OW270723 Tokyo KYODO in English 0641 GMT
27 Dec 87

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 27 KYODO—The 112th regular session of the Diet (parliament) opens Monday with Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita's tax reform high on its agenda.

Members of the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors will be called into the session that will last 150 days until May 25.

Takeshita, who succeeded Yasuhiro Nakasone on November 6, will face a crucial test of his leadership during the session, particularly over the drastic tax reform issue, political analysts said.

He wants to introduce some sort of indirect tax to prepare what he describes as the era of a greying society in Japan.

Nakasone failed to implement a sales tax system, a kind of European value added tax, when members of his own ruling Liberal Democratic Party balked at it.

Monday both Houses of the Diet will hold a plenary session to designate the members' seating and set up special committees.

The legislature then goes into a year end-new year recess and genuine parliamentary debates are scheduled after the Diet reopens January 25.

Prime Minister Takeshita will deliver his administrative policy speech, to be followed by interpellations from opposition party leaders.

In addition to the question of tax reform, there will be other issues such as the government's measures to check soaring land prices in Tokyo and Japan's security and defense.

For the time being, Takeshita and his party will make all out efforts to get Diet approval of the 56.6 trillion yen budget for fiscal 1988, which begins April 1.

North Korea

Reagan Remarks on Troops in South Viewed
SK290356 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2153 GMT 9 Dec 87

[NODONG SINMUN 10 December commentary: "The United States Should Not Stubbornly Persist"]

[Text] According to a report, in so-called answers to questions raised by various news agencies in the Asian-Pacific area a few days ago, U.S. President Reagan babbled that reducing the U.S. Armed Forces in Japan and South Korea runs counter to the national interest of the United States.

His remarks mean that because of the national interest of the United States, he will neither withdraw nor reduce the U.S. troops in Japan and South Korea. This shows that the U.S. ruling circles are adhering to shameless and brigandish sophisms by continuously maintaining the U.S. troops in South Korea and opposing our reasonable and fair disarmament proposal for a large-scale, phased reduction of the armed forces in the North and South of Korea.

Linking the issue of withdrawal and reduction of the U.S. troops in South Korea with the national interest of the United States is an utter sophism and obstinacy. The attempt to justify the military occupation of South Korea by the United States by stating that such occupation is designed for the national interest of the United States means that the United States is an aggressor.

Reagan's remarks run counter even to basic reason and are a ridiculous, brigandish theory. The national interest of the United States cited by Reagan is a thorough pronouncement of the imperialists' aggression. The intention of the U.S. ruling circles not to withdraw and not to reduce the U.S. troops in South Korea is designed to continuously keep South Korea in their grip as their colony and military base and use it as a stepping stone to invade the northern half of the Republic and other socialist countries.

They are attempting to legalize their aggressive intention and ambition on the pretext of serving the national interest of the United States. The U.S. imperialists have repeatedly raved about peace and easing tension on the Korean Peninsula. However, the touchstone as to whether their remarks are true or not is what attitude they assume toward the issue of withdrawal and reduction of the U.S. troops in South Korea.

If the United States is not pursuing an ambition for aggression on the Korean Peninsula and truly wants to relax tension and achieve peace, there can be no reason whatsoever why it cannot take the step of withdrawing the U.S. troops from South Korea. This is even more true under the circumstances in which we put forward reasonable arms reduction proposals and took the initiative in unilaterally reducing 100,000 KPA troops.

Today the world's people unanimously demand that the United States immediately respond to our reasonable and fair arms reduction proposal. But Reagan has just stated that he will not reduce the U.S. troops in South Korea on the preposterous pretext of the national interest of the United States. This clearly shows that the U.S. imperialists are warmongers and what they want on the Korean Peninsula is not peace and relaxing tension but war and aggravating tension.

Today's situation on the Korean peninsula, where enormous armed forces are in an acute confrontation with each other with the Military Demarcation Line in between, urgently demands that the danger of a nuclear

war be eliminated and effective arms reduction measures be urgently worked out to safeguard peace. Whether or not this demand can be realized depends totally on the United States. The world is watching the U.S. attitude closely. If the U.S. ruling circles want to act sensibly and with discretion, they should respond to our proposal at an early date instead of adhering to foolish sophisms and remaining obstinate.

Paper on South's Christmas Message to Troops

SK251027 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1021 GMT 25 Dec 87

[Text] Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA)—MINJU CHOSON today denounces the puppet defence minister of South Korea for twanging the harp of treacherous utterance in a "Christmas message" to the U.S. imperialist aggression forces occupying South Korea.

In a signed commentary the paper says:

He blared that the U.S. imperialist aggression forces occupying South Korea have performed "feats" in implementing a duty of "protecting" South Korea and made all their efforts to ensure "defence" and "security" and "freedom" and "prosperity".

This is a shameless jargon which could be mouthed only by the scandalous flunkeyist traitor who is prolonging his remaining days, clinging to the coattail of the U.S. imperialist masters.

The U.S. imperialist aggression forces' occupation of South Korea is, in fact, the main factor of hampering the reunification of Korea and increasing the danger of war on the Korean peninsula and the root cause of all misfortunes and sufferings of the South Korean people.

Puppets' treacherous utterances are intended to beautify and embellish the U.S. imperialist aggression forces so as to justify their permanent occupation of South Korea and put down the ever-growing anti-U.S. struggle of the South Korean people for independence.

U.S. Accused of 'Aerial Espionage' Off Kosong

SK291059 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1053 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] Pyongyang December 29 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialist aggressors infiltrated an "SR-71" high-speed, high-altitude reconnaissance plane deep into the airspace above the territorial waters east of Kosong in the East Sea of Korea from 10:57 to 11:00 Tuesday, letting it fly up to the sky above the coastal waters of Kim Chaek city, North Hamgyong Province, for aerial espionage against the DPRK.

They committed such aerial espionage against the DPRK on 9 occasions in December and on more than 130 occasions this year by infiltrating the "SR-71" high-speed, high-altitude reconnaissance plane and "U-2" high-altitude reconnaissance plane.

This vividly shows that although the U.S. imperialists talk about "detente" on the Korean peninsula, they are, in actuality, hastening new war preparations premeditatedly while pursuing only confrontation and war.

The United States must stop aerial espionage and military provocations that run counter to peace and detente on the Korean peninsula.

Kim Il-song Greets Romania's Ceausescu

SK291053 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1047 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] Pyongyang December 29 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, sent a message of greetings on December 28 to Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, general secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and president of the Romanian Socialist Republic, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the proclamation of the republic in Romania.

The message says: The proclamation of the republic in Romania marked a historic occasion of turn in the struggle of the Romanian people for national and social liberation.

The Romanian people have achieved fine success in the socialist revolution and construction under the banner of the republic for 40 years since the proclamation of the republic.

The Korean people are sincerely rejoiced over the fact that the fraternal Romanian people under the leadership of the Romanian Communist Party headed by you have made a big stride in laying solid material and technical foundations of socialism and building an allroundly developed socialist society and are greeting a new age of national prosperity.

I sincerely wish you and your people greater success in the future struggle to implement the decisions of the national conference of the Romanian Communist Party held some time ago, prevent the danger of a nuclear war in Europe, convert the Balkan area into a region of peace and cooperation free from nuclear and chemical weapons.

I take this opportunity to express the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between our two parties, two countries and two peoples will further deepen and develop in an allround way in the spirit agreed upon at the meetings and talks between us.

Daily Criticizes Abe's Visit to South
SK250453 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0442 GMT 25 Dec 87

[Text] Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA)—“Congratulations” of the Japanese reactionaries on the “victory” of No Tae-u herald that master-servant relations between Japan and the South Korean puppets will be deepened and schemes for Japan’s all-out reinvasion of South Korea be further intensified NODONG SINMUN says this in a signed commentary on the South Korean visit by Abe, chief secretary of the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan, as a special envoy of the prime minister, on December 21.

The commentary goes on:

The Japanese envoy babbled that the “election” was held in “good order” and extolled No Tae-u, who ruthlessly suppressed the people demanding democracy at the point of the bayonet, as if he were a “standard-bearer of democracy”, in spite of the fact that the recent “election” in South Korea was the worst fraudulent one in history staged by him with government power and money and through suppression.

The Japanese ruling quarters’ “congratulations” on the “victory” of the military gangster hated and condemned by the people are an impudent act of those who are dead to shame. Lurking behind a “toast” of the Japanese reactionaries is a cunning and wicked trick.

The Japanese reactionaries are supporting No Tae-u in a bid to get hold of him as a guide in their reinvasion and realise their colonial domination over South Korea.

In order to achieve their ambition to dominate South Korea they want Korea to remain divided and to this end they hope that the fascist forces opposing reunification would stay on in power in South Korea. This is why the Japanese ruling quarters expressed their intention to “cooperate in an all-round way” with South Korea in the efforts to establish diplomatic relations with other country to create “two Koreas” on the occasion of the rigged-up “victory” of No Tae-u.

This shows that the Japanese reactionaries are dangerous aggressors and interventionists who plot for the permanent division of Korea and work to bar the South Korean people from extricating themselves from the colonial slavery and fascism.

Meanwhile, MINJU CHOSON in a commentary says that the Japanese reactionaries should act with discretion and refrain from laying obstacles in the way of the Korean people’s cause of national reunification.

Daily Criticizes Chon’s ‘Inspection’ of Front
SK250446 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0438 GMT 25 Dec 87

[Text] Pyongyang December 25 (KCNA)—The traitor Chon Tu-hwan “inspected” the front a few days ago and cried for “establishment of guard posture” to cope with someone’s “obstructions” to the “elections to the National Assembly” and “’88 Olympic Games” slated for next year.

NODONG SINMUN today in a signed commentary denounces this bellicose jargon.

The commentary says:

This outburst is a reckless one once again disclosing the bellicose nature of the South Korean military fascist clique seeking the North-South confrontation and war to the end and a part of the scheme to bring under control the South Korean political situation on the point of explosion under the deceptive slogan of “threat from the North”.

While “inspecting” the front this time, the traitor Chon Tu-hwan cried about “threat from the North”. This is a new scheme to divert elsewhere the attention of the people asserting the “nullification of the victory” of No Tae-u in the “elections”.

As he used the incident of the KAL missing in “justifying” the extension of the military dictatorship, the traitor Chon Tu-hwan tries to “justify” the extension of the military dictatorship by No Tae-u and, further, put through the “elections to the National Assembly” and “’88 Olympic Games” without much difficulty with advertisement of “threat from the North.”

The bellicose act of Chon Tu-hwan the puppet suggests that the South Korean military fascists will not hesitate to launch any military provocation or fabricate any anti-communist incident against us in the future.

The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group had better behave with discretion.

Comments on Chon’s Remarks
SK250534 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
2153 GMT 24 Dec 87

[NODONG SINMUN 25 December commentary: “What Does the Visit to the Frontline Aim At?”]

[Text] A few days ago, traitor Chon Tu-hwan played the so-called game of inspecting the alert posture of the puppet army by visiting the Air Force and Navy headquarters and puppet Army units at the central frontline.

Wherever he went, the puppet traitor referred to somebody else’s hampering the National Assembly election and the 1988 Olympics to be held next year in South

Korea and then injudiciously uttered outrageously bellicose language on the need to firmly establish an alert posture against it and the need to improve efficiency in winter and nocturnal operations.

The puppet traitor launched a powder-reeking inspection of the frontline even before calling off the special order he had issued shortly before the just-completed election to put the entire puppet army on the alert. This, something we cannot afford to overlook, is an outrageous act that has laid bare the bellicose nature of the South Korean fascist military clique which is bent on pursuing North-South confrontation and war to the end. It is also part of a scheme designed to bring the South Korean situation, which is on the verge of exploding, under control using the deceitful slogan of the threat of southward invasion.

Although the South Korean puppets fabricated traitor No Tae-u's winning the presidential election by using bayonets and bureaucratic power and financial power, they have met strong protest by the people. The democratic forces have vigorously risen up in the anti-U.S. and antidictatorial struggle for democratization after declaring No Tae-u's fabricated win in the presidential election null and void.

Such a development is a great threat to the military dictatorial group, which is now scheming to recapture power. Attempting to divert public attention and scheming to bring the crisis facing the regime under control by clamoring about the nonexistent threat of southward invasion is a trick the Chon Tu-hwan ring has habitually clung to.

People are aware that the puppets had spread public opinion as if there was an imminent threat of southward invasion by fabricating the incident of a disappeared passenger plane in the wake of the election and that they fabricated traitor No Tae-u's win in the election by barbarously suppressing people who opposed the military dictatorship's recapture of power by preposterously linking them to us.

Traitor Chon Tu-hwan's screaming about southward invasion over the course of playing the game of inspecting the frontline is a new deceitful maneuver designed to divert the attention of the people who insist on nullifying No Tae-u's win in the election.

Patterned after the trick of putting to bad use the incident of the disappeared passenger plane to justify the military dictatorial group's recapture of power, traitor Chon Tu-hwan is now attempting to use the new advertisement of the threat of southward invasion to justify prolonging the military dictatorship by No Tae-u and, going one step farther, to hold the National Assembly election and the 1988 Olympics without incident. This is well explained by the fact that the puppet Chon Tu-hwan has exerted enormous efforts during his inspection of the puppet army units to raise the popularity of No Tae-u, a

Yusin remnant who played a leading role in the 12 December military purge coup d'etat and the 17 May fascist violence and the archvillain responsible for the massacre in Kwangju.

The puppet Chon Tu-hwan's outrageously bellicose act indicates that the South Korean fascist military elements will have no scruples in fabricating any kind of military provocation and anticommunist slanderous incident against us. However, anticommunist confrontation and the commotion of war will never open a way out for the puppets.

The South Korean people, who are well aware that if the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u ring is left intact they will be forced to continuously suffer lives as fascist colonial slaves which exacts their blood and tears, that national peace and peaceful reunification of the country will become more remote, and that this will result only in plunging the nation into the catastrophe of nuclear war, have now risen in the sacred struggle to overthrow the fascist dictatorship with determination to sacrifice even their own lives.

The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u ring's commotion about the threat of southward invasion and war maneuvers will only provoke curses, hatred, and strong resistance of them from the South Korean people.

The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u ring should not act rashly and injudiciously.

Paper on No's Views on Democratic Development
SK280511 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0456 GMT 28 Dec 87

[Text] Pyongyang December 28 (KCNA)—The traitor No Tae-u said that when a "transfer of power" is realized next year, the 13th "presidential" assumption of office would be a prelude to "democratic development."

Branding this as a cock-and-bull story, a signed commentary of NODONG SINMUN notes that the South Korean people have got accounts to square with the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group which has turned South Korea into a permanent prison without iron bars and trampled upon human and civil rights.

It is inconceivable that No Tae-u would be able to do something helpful to democratization of South Korean society, it remarks.

It says the South Korean people determinedly opposed the nomination of the traitor No Tae-u as "presidential candidate" with a massive resistance because he is the same military fascist and heinous enemy of democracy as Chon Tu-hwan.

Although the traitor No Tae-u is glibly talking about "democratic development" after his seizure of power, he is already revealing his true colors as a military fascist even before he takes office as "president," the commentary says, and goes on:

The fascist clique are reinforcing networks of crackdown to emasculate and obliterate the democratic forces on the pretext of "security" and have worked out even a "list of those to be purged" after he has taken power.

He openly threatened that he would check a mass struggle against his "victory in the elections" and, some time ago, got armed police on the move to jail a day more than 1,690 people who protested his election fraud.

His anti-popular career that runs counter to the trend of the times will only result in digging his own grave.

A seat of power taken against the people's will can never be a haven.

Troop Reduction Disproves South's Propaganda
SK290811 Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean
1150 GMT 14 Dec 87

[Commentary by station commentator Kim Byong-pok: "Slandering Propaganda on Danger of Southward Invasion Has Proven False Once Again"]

[Text] The KPA Supreme Command order to discharge 100,000 officers and men of the People's Army from active duty and move them to outposts of socialist construction has been successfully implemented in a little over 4 months.

The KPA Supreme Command has made an announcement in this regard. With implementation of the KPA Supreme Command order, 100,000 generals, officers, and men of the People's Army who were on duty at outposts defending the fatherland moved to various fields of the national economy including plants, enterprises, farms, and fishing villages and are engaged in peaceful economic construction.

This was not a simple step which could be taken easily. As is known, we are confronting the U.S. Army and the South Korean Armed Forces. They are equipped with modern weapons, including nuclear weapons, and are incomparably larger than we are in terms of numbers. Furthermore, even after publication of the 23 July statement of the Government of the Republic, which included the arms reduction proposal, the state acute confrontation has not been relaxed on the Korean peninsula.

Instead of responding affirmatively to our peace proposal, the United States and South Korean authorities have further aggravated tension by accelerating troop reinforcements and war preparations while slandering our proposal as a camouflage peace offensive and so forth.

The South Korean authorities responded to the 5-point patriotic steps for national unity which we recently put forward with intentional military provocations, frequent war maneuvers, and atrocious anticommunist and anti-republic smear commotion.

They even linked recklessly the incident of the missing South Korean passenger aircraft with us and abused this for aggravating the tension between the North and the South. However, even under such a strained situation we unilaterally cut an enormous 100,000 troops in a short period of only a few months, as we told the world we would. This courageous step proceeded from the firm will for peace and from the aspiration for reunification in order to ease tension, to prevent the recurrence of war and, to open a phase favorable for peace and peaceful reunification by realizing arms reduction at any cost. Thus, this serves as a living example in arms reduction.

Furthermore, the step of reducing the troops of the People's Army which we have taken again proved the preposterous nature of the commotion by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets about the threat of an invasion southward. If we had the intention of invading the South, we would not have put forward such an epochal arms reduction proposal, nor would we have again taken the step of unilaterally cutting 100,000 troops following that of last year when we withdrew 150,000 troops from outposts on the frontline and put them in peaceful construction.

Our step of reducing the troops clearly showed at home and abroad through practical acts that we have no intention of invading the South. The remarks of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets about southward invasion are nothing but false propaganda designed to cover up their impure intentions and mislead public opinion.

The puppet defense minister issued the order of a special alert posture to all puppet army units on 12 December, raving that this order was to cope with provocations which were expected from someone during presidential election. This is also a preposterous remark. We have repeatedly stated that we have no intention of taking advantage of any situation which may take place in South Korea. We even took the practical step of unilaterally cutting the troops.

This being the case, how can such a preposterous excuse by the puppets convince the people? The more complex the internal situation in South Korea becomes, the more frantically the puppets slander and smear us. This is a chronic bad habit on their part. In line with this habit they repressed the people's advance by mobilizing even the puppet army and are attempting to strengthen the maneuvers for extending the military dictatorship.

The more frantically the puppets abuse the theory about a threat of a southward invasion, which has been proven false, for extending their dictatorship and preparations

for a northward war of aggression, the more nakedly will their ugly nature be revealed and the greater will be the curse and denunciation of the people at home and abroad.

The United States and the South Korean authorities should not use the gap in the military balance caused by our military cut for impure purposes, but they should promptly respond to negotiations for arms reductions put forth by the government of the Republic.

Message Denounces South's Anti-North Campaign
SK290417 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0410 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] Pyongyang December 29 (KCNA)—The general secretary of the tri-continental people's solidarity organisation sent a message of solidarity to the Korean Committee for Asian-African Solidarity in denunciation of the South Korean puppet's anti-DPRK smear campaign.

The message decisively condemned the schemes of the imperialists who have occupied South Korea for over 40 years and their stooges. The current KAL incident, the message said, is a plot hatched by themselves to direct elsewhere the attention of the South Korean people who are struggling to put an end to the military dictatorial system and achieve freedom and democracy in South Korea.

These acts can be committed only by the imperialists and their stooges, it noted.

Anti-Japanese Revolutionary Spirit Encouraged
SK261004 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0954 GMT 26 Dec 87

[Text] Pyongyang December 26 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today editorially calls for embodying the noble spirit of the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners in work and life.

The editorial says:

As the revolution and construction are gaining in depth and the revolutionary ranks growing stronger, it is essential to deeply imprint on people's memory the revolutionary spirit of heroes of the anti-Japanese struggle and learn from it.

The anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners were the first revolutionary vanguards to create the brilliant tradition of allegiance in our revolution. This fine tradition is a precious one to be carried forward by our people generation after generation.

They cherished allegiance to the leader, the main trait of a communist revolutionary of *chuche*-type, on the noblest height and possessed of fine spiritual and moral traits.

Comrade Kim Chong-suk, an indomitable communist revolutionary fighter, and other anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners regarded the great leader General Kim Il-song as the destiny of the country and the revolution and deemed it as the greatest happiness in their lives to live and fight as bodyguards of the leader throughout their lives.

That was why they defended and protected at the risk of their lives the great general from a shower of enemy bullets and did not yield their revolutionary constancy even behind bars. They firmly defended and carried through the ideas and lines of the leader.

What is important in following the noble example of the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners is their steadfast stand and attitude with which they held the great general in high esteem with purest allegiance, their spirit of absoluteness and unconditionality in the implementation of orders and instructions of the commander and their revolutionary work methods and popular traits, the editorial notes.

All the party members and working people should earnestly follow the example of allegiance of the anti-Japanese revolutionary forerunners so as to fully prepare themselves as communist revolutionaries of *chuche*-type and perform greater heroic feats in the socialist construction, the editorial concludes.

NODONG SINMUN Reviews WPK Line, Policy
SK291022 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0959 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] Pyongyang December 29 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries a lengthy article entitled "Party's Line and Policy are Indestructible Weapon of Our Revolution."

In the first part, the author of the article says that all the victories and gains of our revolution are a precious fruition of the party's line and policy.

Noting that the party's line and policy are a source which strengthens the subject of the revolution and enhances its revolt, the article says: The important ideological basis of the unity and cohesion of the leader, the party and the masses, the subject of the revolution, is the party's line and policy.

The correct line and policy of the party are a guarantee for the establishment of *chuche*. To establish *chuche* means to conduct the revolutionary struggle and constructive work by using one's own brain and strength on the basis of his party's idea and policy.

The party's correct line creates great realities. In a protracted period, especially since the liberation of the country, the internal and external situation of Korea has been complicated. But the Korean revolution has gone

through without the slightest pain and twist an untrodden path difficult at every step. This is attributable to our party's correct line and people's struggle.

Hence, our party's authority is high, our people's dignity shines and the history of the Korean revolution is glorious, stresses the article.

In the second part the article says that our party's line and policy are a banner of the revolution, a banner of victory.

The article goes on:

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the presidium of the Political Bureau, and secretary, of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea, said:

"Our party has laid down and implemented all its policies independently in accordance with the interests of our people and the specific conditions of our country, with the *chuche* idea as the only guiding ideology, under the wise guidance of the leader. That is why it has always won shining victories in the revolution and construction."

The only guiding idea of our party is the *chuche* idea. All the party's lines and policies are based on the *chuche* idea and run through with the idea. The *chuche* idea is an out-and-out revolutionary idea calling on the people to hew out their destiny and the destiny of the country and nation by themselves and a perfect revolutionary doctrine indicating the road to the complete realisation of the *chajusong* of the popular masses.

All the characteristics of our party's line and policy proceed from their thorough embodiment of the *chuche* idea.

The main characteristic of our party's policy is consistency and inheritance.

This means that the party's policy is consistently inherited, developed and translated into practice.

It is consistency and inheritance of our party's line to comprehensively implement line and policy in conformity with the demands of the developing revolution and the prevailing situation, firmly grasping the problems of principles in toto.

Underlying the consistency and inheritance of the line is the party's loyalty to the revolutionary cause and the *chuche* character of party's activities.

It is *chuche* character and *chajusong* of our party's activities to solve all problems arising in the revolution and construction on the basis of its own faith and independent judgement and in conformity with our specific conditions and interests of our people on all accounts.

Characteristics of our party's policy is also that it thoroughly embodies revolutionary principle.

Our party's line and policy strictly reflect the stand of the working class and its fundamental interests and the intrinsic requirements of socialism.

In the political field, they thoroughly embody socialist democracy and, in economic management, moral education of people and all other fields of style of working people's life, they conform with the principles of collectivism.

Maintaining a firm principled stand on imperialism, our party steadfastly upholds the main interest of the revolution and its final aim, countering the U.S. imperialists' counterrevolutionary strategy with a revolutionary strategy and their deceptive tactics with revolutionary principle.

Noting that our party's line and policy have become an invincible banner, a banner of the revolution, because the party has the great leader at its head, the article emphasises:

The justness of policy entirely depends on the greatness and sagacity of the leader.

Respected Comrade Kim Il-song is an outstanding thinker and theoretician who founded immortal *chuche* idea and a great leader who has accumulated incomparably rich revolutionary feats and experience on the protracted road of 60 odd years.

He has led the arduous Korean revolution along the straight road of victory with a correct line and leadership and today, too, wisely organises and leads the struggle for the accomplishment of the revolutionary cause.

The *chuche*-based leadership method and art such as scientific foresight, principle and extraordinary sweep which the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song founded and has realised on the basis of the *chuche* idea are a decisive guarantee for the victory of our revolution.

SKNDF Statement on Election Result in South
SK260625 (Clandestine) Voice of National
Salvation in Korean 0300 GMT 22 Dec 87

["Text" of "statement" issued by spokesman for the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] on 17 December concerning No Tae-u's win in 16 December election—read by announcer]

[Text] The 16 December election was conducted with the government and the DJP having the entire stage to themselves and No Tae-u's win being fabricated. The just-completed election, nothing like the fair election hoped for by the people, forcibly proceeded as an unprecedentedly fraudulent and corrupt election.

From the very beginning, our people consistently called for the forming of a neutral national cabinet and the conducting of a fair election in which public opinion would substantially be reflected. However, the No Tae-u ring, which has forsaken by the people doggedly going against such fair demands by using bayonets, forcibly carried out a fraudulent and corrupt election by enlisting strength from the entire machine of the military dictatorial system. It was literally a wholesale fraudulent and corrupt election, a government-organized election in which bureaucratic power and the power of money were fully mobilized. It was an election in which the dictators exercised their bureaucratic power, while the people were banned from exercising their sovereign rights.

To fabricate No Tae-u's win in the election, the cabinet that was already in place was replaced by a more suppressive military cabinet; the entirety of the 100,000-strong police force was ordered into suppression acts after being placed on a class-A alert; nearly 1 million troops were ordered into a state of semi-martial law after being placed on a special vigilance status; the National Police Headquarters and the Public Prosecutor's Office were mobilized into suppression of democratic forces; and all government officials, including the heads of tong and pan [the smallest units of administration], were mobilized to round up votes for No Tae-u, leaving undone their usually assigned duties.

Toward this end, the press was made subservient to the DJP; universities and colleges were closed ahead of schedule, with students being allowed their winter vacation; election campaign rallies were beleaguered by riot police and commando units; and the streets were left to rampaging soldiers and policemen.

Though they were supposed to exercise their freedom of choice in the election, the voters, blinded, mouths gagged, ears plugged, and hands and feet chained to fetters by the military dictatorship, were forced to unconditionally cast votes for No Tae-u.

Literally, the just-completed election was violence-stained, an election conducted amid blackmail and threats and under the supervision of the bureaucratic power.

Also, the just-completed election was not a fair occasion for the people to express their opinions, but an occasion for the DJP to buy votes. While as much as 100 million won was spent during the notoriously corrupt 12 January Yusin national referendum, during the just-completed election, the DJP spent every penny in the national coffers, an estimated 2 trillion won, as a political fund to buy votes.

The just-completed election was not only a wholesale fraudulent election made corrupt by the DJP, it was also an election conducted using rarely-seen imposters and chicanery.

Shopowners were forced to support the ruling party's candidate, while some were beaten to death by [word indistinct], ballot sheets in polling stations where the majority of the voters cast their votes for opposition candidates were declared null and void by [words indistinct], such occurrences as votes being cast in advance, ballot sheets being filled out by surrogate voters, and absentee votes being forged took place in various places across the country; in Seoul alone approximately 3,000 cases of election fraud took place.

Such a fraudulent and corrupt election conducted by the DJP with a view toward mocking the people and strangling the nation should never be overlooked or tolerated. Despite all manner of fraud and corrupt acts by the government and the ruling party, the best No Tae-u could do was fabricate more or less 30 percent of votes cast in the election. Nearly 12 million voters cast their votes for democracy and against fascism. This shows how much our people hate the military dictatorship and how ardently they aspire for democracy.

Branding the just-completed election a fraudulent and corrupt election in which the DJP fabricated No Tae-u's win by fully mobilizing bureaucratic power, the power of money, and all manner of fraud and chicanery, our SKNDF together with all the people of the nation declare it null and void and solemnly pledge to respond to No Tae-u's unlawful win in the election not with acceptance, but with resistance struggle.

If the results of this fraudulent and corrupt election are tolerated and No Tae-u's coming into power is realized, the false, ear-pleasing promises he lavished for his win in the election will evaporate at once and the murderer responsible for the massacre in Kwangju will once again unsheath his blood-stained sword to mercilessly suppress all democratic and patriotic forces by charging them as left-leaning and procommunist forces, according to poisonous words he made public earlier, and convert all of South Korea into a slaughter house wet with the people's blood.

At the same time, South Korea, the colony, will be reduced to a permanent U.S. fiefdom; the Korean peninsula will be converted into a venue where the major powers scramble for their sphere of influence; and the truce line will inevitably become a fixed borderline. Our people can never sit on the sidelines with their arms folded while this fearful thing happens.

Through the just-completed election, which was conducted with the bureaucratic power and the power of money fully mobilized, our people have painfully experienced that without overthrowing the current military dictatorship, it is impossible to conduct any type of fair election or democratic politics in South Korea.

This being the case, our people should continue their struggle for national salvation until such time as they overthrow the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u military dictatorial regime and establish a genuinely democratic government in this land by raising yet higher the banner of the June struggle.

The just-completed election has demonstrated that the democratic forces can win victory in confrontation with the military dictatorial force and achieve democratization if they are united. Our people will never again tolerate a division of democratic forces, which has resulted in the cause of democratization going bankrupt. They will open a new phase for the movement of democracy and national salvation by uniting as one.

The source of misfortune that has allowed a harsher fascist military dictatorial system to emerge in this land through the just-completed fraudulent and corrupt election is the U.S. aggressive force. The entire course of the just-completed fraudulent and corrupt election has shown that without converting this into a society governed by independence, it is impossible to hope for democratization, and without driving the United States out of South Korea, there is not hope for realizing the people's aspirations for a democratic government.

It was none other than the United States that has provided a scenario to fabricate No Tae-u's win in the election, encouraged the opposition candidates to split, and stood in the way of the opposition camp fielding a single candidate. It was none other than the United States that has raised No Tae-u's popularity by inviting him to visit the United States, and encouraged him by sending high-ranking U.S. Government officials to South Korea. Also it was none other than the United States that has mocked our people by propping up the dictatorship from behind the scenes and superficially championing democracy.

Our people should once again clearly understand the United States' crafty double-dealing tactics and more tenaciously stage the anti-u.s. struggle for independence, with the brunt of their struggle for national salvation turned against the U.S. imperialists.

The United States and the military dictators should clearly see the people's will and strength toward the democratization expressed in the just-completed election and act judiciously.

Instead of being disappointed at and resigned to the outcome of the election that the DJP-conducted in a fraudulent and corrupt manner, all the people in the country should translate their hatred for No Tae-u into gushing indignation to again rise up in the anti- U.S. struggle for independence and antifascist struggle for democratization and thereby open a decisive phase for independence, democracy, and reunification.

[Dated] 17 December 1987, Seoul

SKNDF Statement Denounces Jamming of VNS
SK271121 (Clandestine) Voice of National
Salvation in Korean to South Korea 0300 GMT 3 Dec 87

[Statement by the spokesman for the South Korean National Democratic Front on 2 December]

[Text] The Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u pro-U.S. military group has recently kicked up more viciously than ever maneuvers to slander and jam the Voice of National Salvation [VNS] of our South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF]. This is a mean smear campaign by the fascist group designed to keep VNS from exercising powerful influence over the South Korean people and to mislead popular sentiment. As is well known, our VNS is the mouthpiece for the SKNDF, a vanguard unit of the South Korean masses who are struggling for independence, democracy, and reunification, and a voice that defends all the patriotic masses' will and interests.

Our VNS is a broadcast station of the South Korean masses themselves that the vanguard fighters of the SKNDF produce and transmit from underground in response to the call of the times and the popular will for tolling the bell of dawn and echoing the voices of justice for the masses who are moaning in the dark where the worst fascist suppression in history is rampant. Our broadcast station is spiritually arming SKNDF fighters and patriotic masses of all walks of life with the chuche idea—the nation's one and only guiding ideology and the present era's guiding idea—instilling genuine nutrition for survival and the conviction of sure victory in their hearts, and vigorously inspiring them in the sacred anti-U.S. and antifascist struggle for independence, democracy, and national reunification.

In step with the changing situation at home and abroad, our station has told the masses in a timely manner how they must go forward; has voiced the will of the masses, who have been suppressed, and has loudly voiced their demands; and has indicted and punished every crime of the Yankee aggressors and pro-U.S. fascist forces, who have run counter to the popular will and trend of history. In this way, it has wonderfully fulfilled its duty as a leader [sondoja] of the masses, the voice of the popular will, and a judge of history. Because of its sincerity and justness and because of its achievements in the South Korean mass movement, VNS has become a genuine broadcast station of the masses that is actively assisted and loved by the entire nation and has become an authoritative and dignified broadcast station recognized by the world's progressive social circles.

It is a matter of course that in a wasteland where the unprecedented suppression of the press is carried out and where all of the press have become pro-government and pro-ruling party, the patriotic masses of all walks of life, recognizing VNS as the one and only voice of justice, are widely listening to it and finding in it struggle directives and the correct roads to cultivate their destiny. As a matter of fact, the VNS of the SKNDF has become a stimulator that

gives courage and faith to our masses who are struggling for independence, democracy, and reunification, and has become a powerful dagger that gives uneasiness and horror to reactionary forces that make aggression and treachery its undertakings. Therefore, since VNS began transmitting its radio waves, to keep it from exercising influence, the fascist nation-selling forces have made every effort to slander our station and have even jammed it, branding it the North's black broadcast station and its illegal means of propaganda. The fascist group's crime against VNS has rather exposed their antinational, antimasses, and antidemocratic nature to the people and has increased the people's support for our station and made more people listen to it. The vicious maneuvers of the Chon Tu-hwan-No Tae-u group to slander and jam VNS, a genuine voice of the popular will, graphically show that its promises for democratization in society and for the freedom of the press are a very hypocritical, false, and deceptive trick.

The SKNDF sternly denounces the mean maneuvers of the military dictators, terming them another uncouth violent acts designed to keep the chuche-type radio waves and the voices of mankind from exercising influence and to turn South Korea into a dark area for the [word indistinct] press in South Korea and as a vicious challenge to all the patriotic masses who yearn for the freedom of the press and the voices of the truth. The SKNDF also strongly demands that the maneuvers to slander and jam VNS be immediately stopped.

Nothing can check and block the radio waves of the truth and the voices of the popular will. No matter how frantically they exert efforts, traitors Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u, who run counter to and reject the popular will, cannot keep VNS from exercising influence. By more vigorously transmitting the radio waves of justice in response to the national desire and the call of the times, the VNS of our SKNDF will fulfill its historic duty as a genuine leader, a voice, and a stimulator for the patriotic masses of all walks of life who are waging a bloody struggle to hasten the dawn of independence, democracy, and reunification.

[Dated] 2 December 1987

South Korea

Soviet Delegation Visit Termed 'Good Sign'
SK290243 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
29 Dec 87 p 11

[By staff reporter Pak Mu-chong]

[Text] The arrival of a delegation from the Soviet Union's National Olympic Committee to Seoul Sunday serves as a good indication for the Communist superpower's participation in the 1988 Seoul Olympics, a Korean sports leader observed yesterday.

"It is a good sign for the success of the Seoul Olympiad for the Soviets to visit here for working-level discussions with us for their participation in the Games," Dr. Kim Un-yong, Korean member of the International Olympic Committee, [IOC] said.

In an year-end interview with THE KOREA TIMES, the 56-year-old IOC member since 1986 expressed "no surprise" at the Soviet's visit here which came 22 days before the IOC-set deadline for application to take part in the Seoul Games.

"It is quite normal for a country preparing to compete in the Olympics, particularly the Soviet Union which is a leading country of the Olympic Family, to have discussions with the host country on its participation," he said.

As an IOC member, Kim said that "the IOC understands that all Socialist countries will announce their decision to take part in the Seoul Games between Jan. 1 and Jan. 17."

So, the SLOOC [Seoul Olympic Organizing Committee], from now on, has to concentrate its all-out efforts on securing maximum safety of participants and on holding the sports events without a hitch, according to Kim.

Kim, also present of the General Association of International Sports Federation (GAISF), harbors no doubt of a success of the Seoul Games, which he described as "the historic mission of the Korean people."

"It is predicted that we will be able to have the largest-ever and successful Olympiad here," he said with confidence.

His firm belief stems from the "fact that the Korean people whole-heartedly support the Olympics with pride."

He also pointed out that the "cooperation among the SLOOC, IOC, NOCs [National Olympic Committees] and IFS (International Sports Federation) has been well coordinated to ensure an Olympic success."

As to the crucial question of the dead-locked south-north sports talks, he maintained the IOC's basic position that "the door is still open."

But, he stressed that "time is running out."

Asked if the IOC would allow North Korea's participation even after the later applies to compete after the Jan. 17 deadline, Kim said, "It's up to the decision of the IOC."

However, the IOC member said that the IOC would show positive reaction to the issue.

North Korea has threatened to lead a Communist boycott of the Seoul Games if it is not allowed to "co-host" the Olympics, while the IOC and South Korea have agreed to let North Korea hold five events. But Pyongyang has not responded to the offer, as of yet.

Recalling the year of 1987, Kim expressed full satisfaction over his accomplishments during the year.

"It was a year of full achievements. The preparations for the Olympics have showed good progress and the Korean sports have made inroads in the international arenas.

"The year provided a stepping stone on which Korea could take another leap in all fields as well as in sports," he said.

Personally, he feels a bit of pride for his role as chief negotiator with Japan's NHK on the sales of Seoul Olympics TV rights. The TV rights were sold for \$52 million, three times that of the Los Angeles Games.

The New Year will be a busy year for the sports leader, who also serves as the president of the World Taekwondo Federation.

He seeks, among others, to have the Korean martial art, taekwondo, as a regular Olympic sport possibly beginning in the 1986 Olympics.

"The success of the taekwondo event in the Seoul Olympics as a demonstration sport will help the martial art be designated as an Olympic sport," he said.

He is also determined to contribute to the development of the Korean sports by fulfilling his role as the sole Korean IOC member and president of the GAISF.

Kim Chong-pil Not Opposed to U.S.-North Talks
SK260108 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
26 Dec 87 p 2

[From the "Press Pocket" Column: "'distant Matter'"]

[Text] New Democratic Republican Party [NDRP] president Kim Chong-pil had a quiet Christmas day at his home in Chonggu-dong, playing "paduk" (go) and chatting with reporters.

Kim expressed skepticism over president-elect No Tae-u's idea of visiting China and establishing diplomatic relations with it, calling it "a distant matter."

He, however, added that it is to the credit of No that the president-elect mentioned visiting China at all.

At one point, Kim said he is not opposed to the United States talking "directly" with North Korea.

"It is necessary to get the Communist North out of its closed system into the world community. In that respect, I am not opposed to the United States and even Japan talking directly with the North," the NDRP president said.

He further said that he did not think Pyongyang would disrupt the Seoul Olympics next year.

Kim said the people have the common wish for the success of the international games, but the government's "selling the cause of the games too much" arouses their strong feelings of "disapproval."

Trade Minister To Meet U.S. Counterpart
SK270103 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
27 Dec 87 p 6

[Excerpts] Minister of Trade and Industry Na Ung-pae will meet with U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter to discuss bilateral trade issues at the fourth Asia-Pacific Trade Conference Jan. 8-10 in Bali, Indonesia.

Na will ask Yeutter to ease the U.S. trade offensive against Korea, including calls for widening the Korean market to American beef and cigarettes.

America is threatening to invoke Section 301 of the U.S. Foreign Trade Act to retaliate against Korea's unwillingness to widen its market to American beef, cigarettes and insurance concerns.

The proposed meeting will be the first between top trade officials of the two countries next year. [passage omitted]

The annual conference will discuss worldwide protectionism, and the Uruguay Round.

Na will call for a halt to protectionism against developing countries at the three-day meeting.

DJP Denies Report of No's PRC Visit
SK290607 Seoul YONHAP in English
0555 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—The ruling Democratic Justice Party (DJP) Tuesday denied as groundless a report by a U.S. daily that President-elect No Tae-u hopes to pay an unofficial visit to China in January or February next year.

Hyon Hong-chu, a DJP vice secretary-general, said No's visit to Beijing is a matter to be discussed bilaterally between South Korea and China, not a matter to be decided because of one side's hope to visit or the other side's invitation to visit.

South Korea has no diplomatic ties with China.

The CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR said in its Monday edition that No, president of the ruling party, hopes to visit China unofficially in January or February in his capacity as an adviser to the Seoul Olympic Organizing Committee.

Hyon said, the timing of No's visit to China and what his capacity will be during the trip have never been discussed within the ruling party.

No won an overwhelming victory in Korea's first direct presidential election in 16 years on Dec. 16. he is scheduled to take office on Feb. 25 to serve a single five-year term.

PRC To Open Trade Office After Olympics
SK250137 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
25 Dec 87 p 1

[Text] Hong Kong (YONHAP)—China has unofficially notified South Korea of its plan to open a trade office in Seoul after the 1988 Seoul Olympics as part of continued efforts to quietly improve relations between the two countries, the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW said Thursday.

Currently, the two nations have direct telex transmission facilities, the weekly news magazine said.

The REVIEW said the law college of Beijing University is unofficially contacting a South Korean conglomerate for a possible contribution of \$1 million to construct a new building for the law college.

The university, instead, offers to name the building after the contributor, the REVIEW said.

Beijing also invited Seoul to participate in joint three-nation project—China, Japan and South Korea—to unify their respective legal terms in Chinese characters translated from Western words after World War II, the REVIEW said.

Car Makers Seek To Enter Japanese Market
SK290141 Seoul YONHAP in English
0134 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—Major Korean automakers are expected to step up efforts to enter the Japanese market next year on a full-scale basis, business sources said Tuesday.

After making inroads into the United States and Canada, Hyundai Motor Co., Daewoo Motor Co. and KIA Industrial Co. plan to enter the Japanese market next year, the sources said.

They said negotiations are under way between Daewoo and Japanese businesses for entry of the Lemans, Daewoo's new subcompact model, into the Japanese market.

KIA, which shipped 100 Besta mini-buses to Japan last week, plans to expand Japan-bound shipments of the mini-buses along with its Pride subcompact cars.

The sources said Hyundai has shown a comparatively passive attitude in launching its business in Japan, citing Japan's limited market and the company's brisk exports to the North American region. But Hyundai is also considering exporting its subcompact passenger cars to Japan, they added.

Exports Expected To Reach \$47 Billion
SK290739 Seoul YONHAP in English
0643 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 29 (YONHAP)—South Korea's exports are expected to total 47 billion dollars in 1987, resulting in a 10 billion-dollar surplus in the nation's balance of international payments, Trade and Industry Minister No Ung-pae said Tuesday.

The total exports represent an increase of 8 billion dollars from this year's original export target of 39 billion dollars and a 35 percent increase from those of the previous year, he added.

While presiding over a meeting of ranking officials of the ministry, No said that Korea should adopt a positive outlook toward the U.S. demands for Korea's market liberalization, considering that Washington's deficits in its trade with Seoul run about 10 billion dollars annually.

Noting that Korea's imports of beef from the United States amount to only an annual average of 10 million dollars, he added that as Korea stands on the threshold of joining the ranks of the world's major trading powers, the country's future trade policy should be reoriented toward the principle of reciprocal benefits.

Government Sets Monthly Minimum Wage Level
SK260106 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
26 Dec 87 p 3

[Text] The government has set the monthly minimum wage level for workers in all manufacturing fields at 111,000 won and 117,000 won, it was announced Thursday.

The lower level of 111,000 won was set for those in 12 business fields with relatively low levels of pay and 117,000 won for those in the 16 fields with higher salaries.

The long-coveted minimum wage was set in a meeting of the Minimum Wage Deliberation Committee composed of representatives of all interest group, except workers.

The minimum wage system will be applied to all manufacturing fields across the nation for two years.

The 12 fields required to pay 111,000 won or more in wages are the foodstuff, textile, garment, leather, footwear, wood, paper, rubber, plastic, pottery and electric machine industries.

And the manufacturing fields obliged to pay 117,000 won or more include the beverage, cigarette, furniture, printing and publication, industrial chemical and petroleum refinery industries.

According to the Labor Ministry, workers aged 17 or below with less than six months working experience are to be paid 90 percent of the minimum wage.

However, the decision on the minimum wage level was made in the absence of the representatives of workers, who stalked out of the meeting, saying that the level is too low to be acceptable.

The Korea Trade Union's Association refused to accept the minimum wage level, saying that the decision made in the absence of representatives of workers is null and void.

Labor Leaders Not Satisfied

SK270120 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
27 Dec 87 p 3

[By staff reporter Yi Chang-sun]

[Text] Korea's low-paid workers will be guaranteed minimum wages and thus their living expenses next year.

The Minimum Wage Screening Committee at the Labor Ministry, overcoming opposition from labor, announced a double-tiered wage system for certain manufacturing industry employees on Thursday.

The minimum wage is 111,000 won (about \$140) per month for 12 manufacturing industries, including food, textiles, garments and footwear.

For 16 other manufacturing industries, including beverages, machinery and electrics, the minimum is 117,000 won (\$147).

But labor leaders remain unsatisfied with the announced minimum wages.

Labor representatives have criticized the minimum wages as insufficient to meet workers' living costs.

Only management and public interests voted for the minimum wages, while labor leaders stayed away from the meeting in which the wage levels were pegged.

The Federation of Korean Trade Unions (FKTU) yesterday joined a chorus of labor complaints over the minimum wages.

A FKTU official said the minimum wages should be nullified as they were decided in the absence of labor representatives.

Labor had proposed minimum wages of 149,000 won and 159,000 won.

The influential daily CHOSUN ILBO, in an editorial published yesterday, argued that the minimum wages are unrealistically low and urged they be raised to at least 120,000 to 130,000 won.

It claimed that the minimum wages, virtually set by the Labor Ministry, could hurt the minimum pay system itself and labor-management relations at low-paying companies.

But the Korean Employers' Federation (KEF) said minimum wages would burden small and medium firms, which are in bad financial shape.

"Many small firms and subcontract plants will hardly escape serious financial problems to pay the minimum wages as most low-paid employees are working at such workplaces," a KEF official claimed.

Management had offered minimum wages of 100,000 won and 105,000 won.

Representatives of labor and management can demand a review of the minimum wage within 14 days if they are dissatisfied.

However, the Labor Ministry will push ahead with the minimum wage for next year, a ministry official said.

In their editorials, the TONG-A ILBO and the HANGUK ILBO generally supported the two-tiered minimum wages. They called on workers to be patient.

The minimum wage is expected to benefit about 100,000 workers or 4.2 percent of the employees of manufacturing firms with 10 or more employees.

According to statistics compiled by the Labor Ministry, about 70,000 employees of manufacturing plants with 10 or more workers are paid less than 100,000 won a month.

Employers found guilty of violating the Minimum Wage Law can be imprisoned for up to three years and fined a maximum of 10 million won.

The law will force plants with poor financial status to reduce hiring or lay off employees, which could ignite labor disputes, labor experts observed.

The added financial burden from the minimum wage is expected to drive some small firms and subcontract plants bankrupt.

Labor experts are worried that some employers will peg wages at the minimum.

The minimum wage will have some adverse effects, but is good news for many low-paid employees, a Labor Ministry official said.

The system will help make Korea a full-fledged welfare society, he said.

The system will apply only to manufacturing firms with 10 or more workers next year and will be gradually expanded to cover other industries.

Korea is scheduled to phase in most of the systems characteristic of a welfare state, including a pension scheme, next year in addition to the present medical insurance system, he said.

President Chon Addresses Cabinet Session
SK290121 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
29 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] President Chon Tu-hwan yesterday directed the Cabinet to give the top priority in the New Year administration to the smooth implementation of parliamentary elections.

In a year-end Cabinet session he chaired at Chongwadae, President Chon told the Cabinet to get everything ready for conducting the coming general elections in an orderly method.

The elections are scheduled to be held sometime between February and April next year.

The President called for closer cooperation among the relevant ministers to eliminate regional antagonism and rift between social classes, thus laying firm groundwork for grand national reconciliation and unity.

President Chon expressed deep concerns over the seriousness of regional sentiments which surfaced during the Dec. 16 presidential election.

Chon asked the Cabinet to be fully prepared for the smooth transition of government scheduled for Feb. 25 next year. He said that ceremonies for the change of president should be conducted in a festive mood.

He asked the Cabinet to brief president-elect No Tae-u on state affairs, focusing on the current security situation and the progress of preparations for the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

No Pledges To Quit If Public's Confidence Lost
SK250057 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
25 Dec 87 p 2

[By KOREAN TIMES correspondent Yi Chae-song]

[Text] Washington—South Korean president-elect No Tae-u has said that he would quit the presidency if he loses a public vote of confidence that he had pledged to seek after the 1988 Seoul Olympics, THE NEW YORK TIMES [NYT] said Wednesday (Dec. 23).

The paper quoted No as saying in an interview, "Of course, if people say no in the vote of confidence, I shall resign."

The newspaper reported that No has indicated to hold the plebiscite on his performance "within a year or so."

No has also acknowledged for the first time that some people in his ruling camp had been guilty of campaign misconduct.

But the daily said that No has insisted that the wrongdoing consisted of "partial, isolated irregularities" and not widespread fraud that opposition candidates say was used to steal victory from the DJP.

No maintained that if anything, the opposition was guilty of "far worse."

He was quoted as saying, "If the opposition can come up with evidence of their own to show irregularities, I think we have more evidence to prove that they have engaged, too, in irregularities."

No put the vote-of-confidence idea forward in the final days of campaign to give his candidacy a last-minute boost.

But No said during the interview that he had no regrets even though the promise could come back to haunt him, the NYT said.

As to the failure by opposition candidates Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung to field a single candidacy, No said that he could have won the election even if they had unified behind a single contender.

"If the opposition came up with a single candidate, I expect that a considerable portion of the vote that went to it in a three-way race might have come to my support and I could win even in the two-way race," No said.

The NYT noted that both Kims had said in separate interviews they would not urge dissidents to take to the streets in protest, and channel their energies instead into gathering evidence of election fraud and rigging.

Meanwhile, the Washington Post reported on its Wednesday edition that No has indicated the vote of confidence might be simply one in the National Assembly.

It cited No as saying, "If that Assembly was selected as a result of a fair and open election, I think it can be used. There can be no objection to that."

"What I want to see is how the Korean people render judgment on my record... There can be other ways, too," No said.

During an interview with a correspondent, No said that he is "ready to go" to Beijing to work for improved ties between South Korea and China but he would not say whether he has received any encouragement from China.

No was quoted as saying "I think the People's Republic of China would like to have more developed relations with us, and they seem to have moved beyond thinking only of North Korea."

No went on to say, "All the intelligence agencies should confine their activities to a strict sense of national security, and should not interfere with politics or the economy."

THE WASHINGTON POST said No noted that he would not necessarily reduce the agencies' size, saying funds could be diverted to more proper activities.

Forum Outlines New Government's Tasks
SK290115 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
29 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] President-elect No Tae-u has a heap of problems to tackle during his five-year presidential term which will begin on Feb. 25, 1988, in meeting the diverse demands from various strata of society.

Scholars yesterday pointed out major tasks to which priority should be given by the No government, presenting their own solutions in a symposium.

The debate at the Hotel Lotte was sponsored by the Korea Institute for Policy Studies, headed by Yi Yong-ho. The wide-ranging academic forum featuring discussion by 10 separate panels closes today.

Prof. Kim Il-chol from Seoul National University said that the primary cause of the inability to achieve national reconciliation is the regional antagonism which was prominent during the election campaign.

Pointing out that a particular presidential candidate had received the support of 93 percent of all voters in Kwangju, he said, "Perhaps there is no more important cause of this than the political tendency to resistance against the government caused by the 1980 Kwangju incident."

"A political solution to the Kwangju incident must be the most fundamental aspect of any reconciliation policy," he noted.

Another serious problem, Kim said, is the sharp confrontation and mutual distrust of the "conservatives" and the "progressives" over political and economic ideology, as far as it effects the liberal democratic, capitalist state.

He said, "There must continue to be conflict and confrontation as we have often witnessed destruction, suicide and violent acts in the street."

However, Prof. Kim said it was difficult to establish the identity of the ideas and ideologies of violent students and political groups because they always act underground.

The first stage of national reconciliation is to establish their identity clearly by drawing them above ground and then seek ways of absorbing them into the institutionalized system, he suggested.

Prof. Kim Ho-jin of Korea University said that the tasks facing the next government in the next steps toward genuine democracy are the implementation of local autonomy, guarantee of academic freedom and freedom of the press as well as the political neutrality of the public service and the military.

He went on to say that the No government should conduct a "moral politics" by correcting the mistakes made during the current Fifth Republic and bringing scandals connected with the President and his kinsmen to light.

For national reconciliation, an acceptable settlement of the Kwangju incident should be made by divulging who was responsible for the tragedy and making reasonable compensation for the victims, Kim said.

Ge suggested that those who are under arrest for political reasons be set free across the board and those who lost their civil rights be reinstated.

Kim maintained that the government should push ahead with such steps with "generosity and patience."

Prof. Song Pok from Yonsei University stressed the autonomy of social organizations, by the discarding of "bureaucratic absolutism" and the "centralization" of power.

He said that the "maturity of the industrialization" of this society is remarkable pointing out that the number of occupations was 1,500 in 1974 but that this had increased to 12,000 in 1986.

Song also said that the total number of business firms as of July 1, 1986 had reached 1,670,000, an increase of 410,000 over the previous five years.

"The rise of such a heterogeneity and level of conflict caused by the diversification of society has made it impossible to control and coordinate each of those organizations by centralized power.

"So, it is inevitable and urgent that there be an increase in their autonomy and self-control," he noted.

He asserted that the press, universities and labor unions are the major three organizational groups which most need autonomy.

Kim Chin-kuk, researcher at the Institute for Foreign Affairs and National Security, said that the time has arrived to accommodate the younger generation's aspirations for greater self-reliance in diplomacy and the opening of discussion on national unification.

He noted that the government should become a positive "actor" in diplomacy on the international scene and put Korea-u.s. ties on an equal footing.

On the basis of a successful hosting of the 1988 Seoul Olympics, the government should exert an effort to develop substantial relations with the Soviet Union and China as well as Third World countries, he stressed.

For national unification, cooperation between Seoul and Pyongyang should be sought in all possible areas and mutual sacrifice should be minimized.

In addition, efforts should be made to prevent the attrition of the energies of both South and North Korea through unnecessary conflict.

Taking into account the economic difficulties of North Korea into account, he said, South Korea initiatives to help the north may be the shortcut to a breakthrough in inter-korean relations.

Kim Yong-sam on Assembly Election Position
SK260136 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
26 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] Reunification Democratic Party president Kim Yong-sam clarified yesterday that the opposition party will stick to the small constituency system in interparty negotiations on the Parliamentary Election Law.

"The small constituency system and general election in April are the unchangeable position of our party," Kim said in a press conference at Kimpo Airport upon his return to Seoul yesterday from a local tour.

Kim's remark was designed to preempt the growing differences within the party over the timing and the method of the parliamentary elections.

The RDP president recalled that the party position on the parliamentary election had been decided in a meeting of the Executive Council, the top decision-making body of the party, several months ago.

"Nobody, including myself, can change the party position," said the RDP president.

Some party members have been calling for February elections, claiming that the next government led by No Tae-u will attempt further election frauds if the general elections are held in April.

The RDP president said that he would complete reinforcing the party by filling vacant party posts including the chief policymaker within this month. Another vice party president will also be named, Kim said.

Kim also said that he would recruit a number of "young elites" as part of efforts to reform the opposition party.

The RDP is gearing up for the forthcoming parliamentary elections along with an early selection of candidates to run for the National Assembly which the ruling party seeks to hold before the inauguration of the new president on Feb. 25.

A senior aide to party president Kim Yong-sam told reporters yesterday that the RDP leader will complete nomination of candidates by mid-January.

"Party president Kim believes that an early preparation is essential to achieve the goal of ending the military rule through the parliamentary elections," said the aide. The RDP seeks to become the largest party in the 13th-term National Assembly through the general elections.

A committee for the recommendation of candidates will start working as soon as the New Year holidays are over, party sources said.

Party spokesman Kim Tae-yong said that many "new and fresh" figures will be included in the party candidates.

In particular, a considerable number of young elites, journalists, professors and retired military officers will be recommended, said Rep. Kim.

Particularly, those ex-generals who helped Kim in the presidential campaign are likely to be nominated.

Among them are Chong Song-hwa, former Army chief of staff; Kim Yong-kwan, former chief of naval operations; Kim Song-yong, former Air Force chief of staff; Kim Tae-silk, former Marine Corps commandant, and Kim Chin-ki, a former Army provost marshal.

But Chong, who also served as the martial law commander, has repeatedly expressed his intention not to take any public post including a membership in the National Assembly.

Kim Chae-chun, former director of the Central Intelligence Agency, (later named as the Agency for National Security Planning), who entered the opposition party last month, is certain to run in his former district of Kimpokanghwa, where he was elected twice to the National Assembly.

Vice party president Kim Sang-hyon, who was once the right-hand man of Kim Tae-chung and entered the RDP last month, is expected to choose the Sodaemun district of Seoul where he was elected in 1971 for the last time.

Mrs. Hwang San-sung, a lawyer, is expected to be given an Assembly seat under the proportional representation system.

RDP president Kim, who returned to Seoul yesterday after visiting his father at a hospital in Pusan, said that his party will seek to settle major political issues such as the negotiation of the revision of parliamentary election law sometime next month.

Kim Yong-sam Rejects Alliance With PPD
SK260142 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
26 Dec 87 p 2

[From the "Out and About" column: "No Alliance With PPD"]

[Text] RDP leader Kim Yong-sam yesterday said that he was so dispirited and angered over his loss in the Dec. 16 election that he could not sleep at all for the next several days.

Kim returned to Seoul last night from a four-day home visit to Pusan during which he visited his ailing father at a Pusan hospital and his ancestors' graves.

He emphasized that whether the ruling party won the election through fraudulent methods or not should be determined by whatever means necessary.

Such an effort is required to prevent any fraud in the coming parliamentary poll and thereafter, Kim said.

Kim said that he has never thought of forming an alliance again with the PPD's [Party for Peace and Democracy] Kim Tae-chung or improving their relations to prepare for the National Assembly election.

Junior Opposition Seek To Form New Party
SK250104 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
25 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] A group of junior lawmakers and lawyers, who had all along advocated the unified presidential candidacy in the opposition, are moving to form a new party to participate in the upcoming general elections.

They are said to be seeking to recruit as many leading political and dissident figures as possible.

They are still seeking a central figure to head the prospective opposition party, it is said.

Spearheading the move is Rep. Pak Chan-chong, who had his head shaved last month in a gesture to pressure Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung into fielding one opposition candidate.

Rep. Pak Chan-chong was quoted as saying Wednesday in Tokyo that he will gather strength from all democratic figures to make a "single-minded effort to oust the military rulers."

He reportedly said that Kim Yong-sam's Reunification Democratic Party and Kim Tae-chung's Party for Peace and Democracy can no longer be relied upon to terminate the military rule.

He lambasted the two Kims for having failed to produce a single opposition candidate, thus paving way for ruling party contender No Tae-u to win the election.

The two opposition leaders have been respected and trusted by the people before the presidential election but now they are losing public confidence as national leaders, Pak was quoted as saying.

Officials of the RDP and PPD, meanwhile, expressed the view that there had been moves in the past to form new parties whenever there is an election.

They expressed doubt as to if the reformative junior lawmakers and lawyers could gather enough strength to create a "wind" in the general elections.

Dissidents Form New United Organization
SK290126 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
28 Dec 87 p 1

[Text] On the morning of 28 December, the National Council To Put an End to Military Rule and Achieve a Single Candidacy issued a public statement that as the 13th presidential election had ended it would dissolve itself and form the "Committee To Prepare for a Democratic National Assembly" to launch a new pure off-stage movement organization.

Maintaining that "the two Kims and their followers are the most responsible for having lost the election due to their failure to field a single candidate and they must assume responsibility for this grave historical mistake," the council clearly stated that "we humbly apologize to the people and history for having failed to field a single candidate—the desire of the people. It clarified that "in our judgment and based on our experience, the future movement for a single front should be based on a coalition front with off-stage democratic forces and with the masses at the center which can be turned into political forces."

RDP Rejects Election Committee Statement
SK250119 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
25 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] The opposition Reunification Democratic Party yesterday denied an allegation of the Central Election Management Committee [CEMC] on the transportation of two suspicious ballot boxes found in the Kuro district office in the Dec. 16 election.

RDP spokesman Kim Tae-yong claimed that no election watcher employed by opposition parties was present when the two ballot boxes, presumed to have contained "surrogate votes" for ruling party candidate No Tae-u, were being illegally transported to another place.

Refuting an advertisement by the CEMC in daily newspapers Monday expressing its position on the controversies over the election frauds, Kim said, "It was illegal for only policemen and public officials to have carried the ballot boxes in the absence of election watchers from the opposition parties."

RDP Issues Report Alleges Election Fraud
SK290125 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English
29 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] The opposition Reunification Democratic Party yesterday issued an initial report on various election frauds which it claimed have been perpetrated by the ruling party and the government in the presidential election.

The RDP report enumerated dozens of cases of illicit campaigning by government ministers and other public servants as well as illegal voting and ballot counting.

The RDP claimed that the ruling party candidate has obtained at least 2 million votes by illegal voting and ballot counting only.

Some 600,000 out of a total of 850,000 votes cast by "absentee voters" including military servicemen have illegally gone to Democratic Justice Party candidate No Tae-u, the RDP claimed.

Enlisted men in military camps have been coerced by their superiors to vote for No, the party alleged.

At least 100 votes at each of the 13,657 voting stations, went illegally to the DJP nominee, according to the paper. This adds another 1.4 million votes to the nationwide volume of election rigging.

The RDP report named three voting places in which the voting rate exceeded 100 percent.

"Our party has to conclude that the Dec. 16 presidential election was an unprecedentedly fraudulent election, out-rivalling the notorious Mar. 15 election (under the rule of late president Syngman Rhee)," said the report.

PPD Files Complaints Over Election Fraud
SK270125 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
27 Dec 87 p 1

[Text] The Party for Peace and Democracy [PPD] yesterday filed a complaint with the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office, calling for punishment of the minister of home affairs, top police officers and policemen for violence during a demonstration to protest alleged election fraud regarding absentee ballots at Seoul's Kuro ward office.

In the complaint, the PPD alleged that the home minister and police officers masterminded the "acts of atrocity" committed by about 4,500 riot policemen when they tried to disperse the demonstrators Dec. 18.

Filing another complaint with the prosecution to seek punishment of Kang Sil-won, a member of an election management committee, the party said Kang violated the presidential election law by trying to relocate a box containing absentee ballots without approval of the committee chairman and presence of observers representing political parties.

Meanwhile, the party also called on the government to immediately scrap its plan to resume imports of beef for use at tourist hotels.

The spokesman said the PPD will also closely watch the government's handling of the issues of lowering prices of foreign cigarettes.

DJP Denies Vote Fraud Allegations
SK290143 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English
29 Dec 87 p 2

[Text] The ruling Democratic Justice Party yesterday denied the allegations by the Reunification Democratic Party that more than 2 million votes for the DJP were gained illegally in the Dec. 16 presidential election.

In a statement, DJP spokesman Yi Min-sop said, "The RDP allegations are nothing but a gathering of rumors, deficient of any specific evidence."

"The opposition party is disregarding the wishes of the people for stability, by constantly questioning the results of the election, whose fairness was proven both at home and abroad," Yi maintained.

Presidential Election Returns by County, District

SK211200 [Editorial Report] Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean on 18 December on page 8 carries a breakdown for regional votes cast for the four major candidates: No Tae-u of the DJP; Kim Yong-sam of the Reunification Democratic Party; Kim Tae-chung of the Party for Peace and Democracy; and Kim Chong-pil of the New Democratic Republican Party.

The breakdown is based on the announcement of the Central Election Management Committee, and is as of 1100 local time on 18 December [0200 GMT 18 December].

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|----------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| SEOUL | 6,486,710 | 5,718,522 | 1,626,041 | 1,583,948 | 1,769,198 | 440,087 |
| Chongno-ku | 173,149 | 151,778 | 46,142 | 40,485 | 51,748 | 10,604 |
| Chung-ku | 136,246 | 118,650 | 35,760 | 29,805 | 42,049 | 8,834 |
| Mapo-ku | 296,563 | 261,096 | 77,074 | 77,081 | 82,814 | 19,846 |
| Yongsan-ku | 211,529 | 183,686 | 56,863 | 52,208 | 57,897 | 13,609 |
| Songdong-ku | 488,239 | 430,964 | 126,415 | 115,084 | 147,525 | 34,488 |
| Tongdaemun-ku | 604,013 | 534,843 | 162,115 | 150,895 | 168,948 | 42,933 |
| Songbuk-ku | 379,023 | 332,884 | 98,306 | 86,419 | 116,902 | 25,902 |
| Tobong-ku | 584,255 | 514,810 | 110,140 | 103,096 | 126,436 | 31,075 |
| Sodaemun-ku | 269,526 | 236,761 | 67,447 | 64,618 | 84,244 | 16,723 |
| Unpyong-ku | 291,220 | 256,598 | 75,630 | 76,566 | 81,478 | 18,609 |
| Kangso-ku | 498,912 | 435,664 | 129,044 | 132,770 | 135,335 | 38,515 |
| Kuro-ku | 448,630 | 399,213 | 52,076 | 47,077 | 66,205 | 20,101 |
| Yongdung-po-ku | 298,222 | 262,990 | 79,942 | 73,333 | 81,165 | 24,251 |
| Tongjak-ku | 266,646 | 235,936 | 65,966 | 66,912 | 79,535 | 19,767 |
| Kwanak-ku | 364,222 | 324,665 | 84,782 | 83,275 | 122,063 | 29,214 |
| Kangnam-ku | 537,067 | 468,490 | 150,220 | 163,656 | 116,759 | 32,511 |
| Kangdong-ku | 639,248 | 562,802 | 167,375 | 180,699 | 164,831 | 42,203 |

Vote counting was not finished at Kuro-ku as of 1100 local time on 18 December.

Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean on 19 December on page 2 gives the final tally for Kuro-ku:

| | Kuro-a | Kuro-b |
|---------------|---------|---------|
| No Tae-u | 56,783 | 52,076 |
| Kim Yong-sam | 53,398 | 47,077 |
| Kim Tae-chung | 63,813 | 66,205 |
| Kim Chong-pil | 20,901 | 20,101 |
| Total | 194,895 | 185,459 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| PUSAN | 2,290,038 | 2,024,716 | 640,622 | 1,117,011 | 182,409 | 51,663 |
| Chung-ku | 58,957 | 51,790 | 16,155 | 28,894 | 4,742 | 1,221 |
| Tong-ku | 127,161 | 112,526 | 35,856 | 63,667 | 8,443 | 2,587 |
| Yongdo-ku | 133,786 | 113,419 | 36,951 | 58,853 | 13,519 | 2,181 |
| So-ku | 136,220 | 119,234 | 35,843 | 69,760 | 8,987 | 2,372 |
| Saha-ku | 185,500 | 161,632 | 47,786 | 92,115 | 14,935 | 4,198 |
| Pusanjin-ku | 327,888 | 292,541 | 94,569 | 157,687 | 27,913 | 7,388 |
| Tongnae-ku | 542,478 | 483,576 | 151,360 | 271,916 | 39,420 | 13,746 |
| Nam-ku | 344,310 | 306,046 | 98,269 | 169,536 | 25,500 | 7,843 |
| Haeundae-ku | 144,681 | 127,383 | 43,787 | 66,506 | 11,710 | 3,356 |
| Puk-ku | 289,057 | 256,569 | 80,047 | 138,075 | 27,242 | 6,771 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|-----------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| TAEJU | 1,275,293 | 1,146,868 | 800,363 | 274,880 | 29,831 | 23,230 |
| So-ku | 350,291 | 316,983 | 226,444 | 70,991 | 7,667 | 6,299 |
| Chung-ku | 104,996 | 94,195 | 65,203 | 23,013 | 2,585 | 1,864 |
| Puk-ku | 196,065 | 175,988 | 126,672 | 38,546 | 4,613 | 3,263 |
| Tong-ku | 202,921 | 183,145 | 129,607 | 42,187 | 4,749 | 3,560 |
| Susong-ku | 194,153 | 173,690 | 117,709 | 47,470 | 4,637 | 3,874 |
| Nam-ku | 226,867 | 202,967 | 137,352 | 52,673 | 5,580 | 4,370 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|----------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| INCHON | 55,271 | 842,231 | 326,186 | 248,604 | 176,611 | 76,333 |
| Nam-ku | 418,955 | 371,454 | 148,053 | 113,914 | 70,089 | 33,310 |
| Chung-ku | 52,232 | 46,178 | 18,882 | 14,837 | 8,224 | 3,474 |
| Puk-ku | 393,911 | 343,401 | 123,747 | 97,838 | 82,920 | 33,004 |
| Tong-ku | 90,173 | 81,198 | 35,504 | 22,015 | 15,378 | 6,545 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|---------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| KWANGJU | 520,488 | 481,565 | 22,943 | 2,471 | 449,554 | 1,111 |
| Tong-ku | 115,935 | 107,474 | 5,779 | 509 | 99,545 | 261 |
| Puk-ku | 177,371 | 164,193 | 8,102 | 985 | 152,545 | 439 |
| So-ku | 227,182 | 209,898 | 9,062 | 977 | 197,464 | 411 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| KYONGGI PROVINCE | 3,352,554 | 2,962,272 | 1,204,235 | 800,274 | 647,934 | 247,256 |
| Suwon City | 308,737 | 273,341 | 10,853 | 82,160 | 55,941 | 29,947 |
| Hwasong County | 149,468 | 132,254 | 60,390 | 24,063 | 32,920 | 8,501 |
| Songnam City | 302,995 | 267,482 | 88,476 | 60,433 | 91,230 | 21,957 |
| Kwangju County | 99,649 | 86,034 | 34,379 | 25,281 | 18,166 | 6,120 |
| Uijongbu City | 108,702 | 95,367 | 39,861 | 24,808 | 20,889 | 7,909 |
| Tongduchon City | 43,776 | 38,983 | 19,531 | 8,752 | 7,923 | 10,980 |
| Yangju County | 49,710 | 44,108 | 21,232 | 11,046 | 7,448 | 3,170 |
| Anyang City | 254,749 | 225,379 | 72,775 | 66,784 | 58,297 | 24,080 |
| Kwangmyong City | 167,006 | 147,162 | 43,684 | 40,586 | 45,089 | 14,909 |
| Kwachon City | 44,553 | 39,563 | 12,149 | 15,056 | 9,566 | 2,364 |
| Ansan City | 88,718 | 77,661 | 27,532 | 20,000 | 21,158 | 7,590 |
| Sihung County | 145,338 | 127,080 | 43,769 | 37,105 | 31,270 | 12,185 |
| Ongjin County | 22,444 | 20,466 | 14,574 | 3,248 | 1,662 | 399 |
| Puchon City | 338,664 | 294,470 | 92,488 | 83,012 | 84,901 | 28,917 |
| Kimpo County | 78,126 | 69,517 | 34,380 | 18,436 | 11,125 | 3,900 |
| Kanghwa County | 55,084 | 50,092 | 29,438 | 11,665 | 9,032 | 1,651 |
| Kuri City | 59,055 | 51,543 | 19,451 | 14,012 | 12,596 | 4,354 |
| Namyangju County | 107,218 | 93,415 | 40,895 | 25,729 | 17,660 | 7,042 |
| Yangpyong County | 57,264 | 51,119 | 29,662 | 11,999 | 5,486 | 2,352 |
| Yuju County | 62,236 | 54,874 | 29,866 | 14,650 | 5,832 | 2,771 |
| Ichon County | 81,939 | 73,782 | 36,691 | 21,381 | 9,288 | 4,655 |
| Yongin County | 97,084 | 85,550 | 37,331 | 23,977 | 14,261 | 7,704 |
| Pyongtaek City | 47,156 | 42,364 | 17,214 | 12,345 | 7,402 | 4,602 |
| Songtan City | 44,484 | 39,962 | 18,328 | 10,539 | 6,818 | 3,519 |
| Pyongtaek County | 73,636 | 65,092 | 31,777 | 17,237 | 9,314 | 5,059 |
| Ansong City | 79,859 | 71,450 | 35,162 | 20,070 | 9,110 | 5,163 |
| Paju County | 106,736 | 95,304 | 49,926 | 24,539 | 13,959 | 4,709 |
| Koyang County | 129,177 | 112,703 | 44,112 | 31,447 | 26,547 | 8,269 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|----------------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Pochon County | 72,972 | 66,640 | 38,429 | 12,664 | 8,591 | 5,279 |
| Yonchon County | 39,020 | 35,165 | 19,965 | 7,571 | 4,693 | 2,124 |
| Kapyong County | 36,999 | 34,350 | 19,716 | 7,466 | 3,870 | 2,130 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|-------------------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| KANGWON PROVINCE | 1,040,632 | 943,416 | 546,569 | 240,585 | 81,478 | 49,954 |
| Chunchon City | 101,105 | 92,016 | 47,211 | 27,335 | 9,762 | 5,897 |
| Chunsong County | 32,994 | 30,696 | 18,220 | 7,416 | 2,458 | 1,509 |
| Cholwon County | 37,533 | 34,818 | 21,468 | 7,486 | 3,682 | 1,323 |
| Hwachon County | 21,069 | 19,486 | 12,957 | 3,243 | 1,964 | 846 |
| Wonju City | 91,118 | 83,025 | 41,547 | 25,141 | 9,931 | 4,741 |
| Hongchon County | 56,621 | 51,737 | 29,104 | 13,368 | 4,717 | 2,299 |
| Hoengsong County | 37,586 | 34,966 | 20,246 | 8,430 | 3,669 | 1,446 |
| Wonsong County | 35,806 | 33,369 | 19,736 | 7,684 | 3,149 | 1,573 |
| Tonghae City | 57,103 | 49,507 | 29,429 | 13,112 | 3,429 | 2,577 |
| Taebaek City | 68,306 | 60,646 | 32,377 | 19,031 | 3,899 | 4,283 |
| Samchok City | 24,138 | 21,387 | 13,339 | 5,007 | 1,354 | 1,171 |
| Samchok County | 45,763 | 40,618 | 25,842 | 9,099 | 2,219 | 2,114 |
| Kangnung City | 79,532 | 70,764 | 36,935 | 22,050 | 6,110 | 4,448 |
| Yangyang County | 22,754 | 21,557 | 13,377 | 4,733 | 1,582 | 1,195 |
| Myongju County | 50,754 | 44,826 | 28,650 | 9,949 | 2,877 | 1,904 |
| Sokcho City | 42,945 | 37,914 | 10,285 | 5,453 | 1,896 | 1,461 |
| Yanggu County | 18,639 | 17,300 | 11,281 | 3,551 | 1,357 | 655 |
| Inje County | 25,631 | 24,040 | 15,179 | 4,562 | 2,586 | 937 |
| Kosong County | 28,768 | 26,497 | 17,020 | 5,558 | 2,184 | 1,045 |
| Yongwol County | 48,418 | 44,299 | 19,626 | 8,395 | 1,759 | 1,902 |
| Pyongchang County | 40,081 | 36,768 | 22,498 | 8,289 | 3,031 | 1,649 |
| Chongson County | 73,968 | 67,180 | 42,405 | 14,408 | 5,541 | 3,137 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|---------------------------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| NORTH CHUNGCHONG PROVINCE | 854,232 | 777,819 | 355,222 | 213,851 | 83,132 | 102,456 |
| Chongju City | 216,148 | 195,956 | 74,342 | 59,453 | 24,302 | 33,993 |
| Chongwon County | 91,422 | 82,597 | 36,327 | 20,469 | 9,490 | 13,509 |
| Chungju City | 70,614 | 63,415 | 26,215 | 19,653 | 5,490 | 10,548 |
| Chechon City | 57,517 | 52,502 | 25,195 | 17,917 | 4,348 | 3,883 |
| Chungwon County | 53,462 | 48,812 | 24,362 | 12,685 | 3,703 | 6,227 |
| Chewon County | 29,352 | 27,598 | 15,043 | 7,957 | 1,872 | 1,642 |
| Tanyang County | 36,633 | 34,150 | 19,167 | 10,209 | 1,770 | 1,849 |
| Yongdong County | 49,385 | 44,874 | 24,075 | 10,776 | 5,020 | 3,437 |
| Poun County | 44,175 | 40,038 | 19,266 | 7,889 | 5,608 | 5,759 |
| Okchon County | 49,947 | 46,369 | 23,767 | 7,626 | 6,856 | 6,361 |
| Koesan County | 63,930 | 57,885 | 28,488 | 14,675 | 5,678 | 6,950 |
| Chinchon County | 36,927 | 34,016 | 15,759 | 9,718 | 3,671 | 3,727 |
| Umsong County | 54,720 | 49,607 | 23,216 | 14,824 | 5,324 | 4,571 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|---------------------------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| SOUTH CHUNGCHONG PROVINCE | 1,788,014 | 1,578,825 | 402,491 | 246,527 | 190,696 | 691,290 |
| Taejon Tong-ku | 205,843 | 184,297 | 49,068 | 39,735 | 30,333 | 61,929 |
| Taejon Chung-ku | 297,747 | 266,607 | 64,002 | 59,676 | 42,797 | 95,540 |
| Chonan City | 87,618 | 78,099 | 20,733 | 16,166 | 9,637 | 29,855 |
| Onyang City | 34,517 | 30,508 | 7,353 | 5,526 | 3,231 | 13,712 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|------------------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Asan County | 64,704 | 56,904 | 15,741 | 9,646 | 5,238 | 24,158 |
| Chonwon County | 66,978 | 59,591 | 20,405 | 10,897 | 5,900 | 20,253 |
| Taedok County | 49,803 | 43,895 | 12,277 | 7,731 | 5,790 | 16,695 |
| Kumsan County | 57,706 | 51,111 | 20,746 | 9,841 | 6,775 | 11,589 |
| Yongi County | 59,485 | 53,049 | 14,975 | 9,239 | 4,479 | 22,467 |
| Nonsan County | 116,125 | 100,958 | 28,444 | 11,251 | 16,376 | 41,424 |
| Kongju City | 31,385 | 28,300 | 6,052 | 3,128 | 2,418 | 16,040 |
| Kongju County | 64,675 | 57,396 | 14,086 | 5,289 | 3,552 | 31,916 |
| Puyo County | 84,044 | 73,368 | 11,117 | 3,482 | 3,729 | 52,659 |
| Taecheon City | 30,317 | 26,728 | 5,397 | 2,749 | 2,749 | 15,192 |
| Sochon County | 65,152 | 56,891 | 15,763 | 5,703 | 9,492 | 26,799 |
| Poryong County | 56,181 | 49,128 | 10,416 | 4,508 | 3,908 | 28,151 |
| Hongsong County | 72,588 | 64,589 | 15,387 | 8,316 | 5,794 | 32,576 |
| Chongyang County | 38,698 | 34,538 | 7,916 | 2,609 | 2,199 | 20,316 |
| Yesan County | 81,888 | 71,982 | 17,457 | 8,773 | 6,188 | 37,042 |
| Sosan County | 138,312 | 119,099 | 28,831 | 14,640 | 14,940 | 55,770 |
| Tangjin County | 84,248 | 71,787 | 16,325 | 7,622 | 8,111 | 37,207 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| NORTH CHOLLA PROVINCE | 1,298,522 | 1,173,500 | 160,760 | 17,130 | 948,955 | 8,629 |
| Chonju City | 269,959 | 246,042 | 25,971 | 3,153 | 209,642 | 1,799 |
| Wanju County | 71,374 | 64,280 | 8,732 | 847 | 51,767 | 370 |
| Kunsan City | 101,380 | 91,651 | 12,215 | 1,932 | 74,082 | 1,473 |
| Okku County | 59,465 | 53,616 | 7,893 | 683 | 42,974 | 392 |
| Iri City | 107,481 | 98,191 | 10,904 | 1,745 | 82,173 | 1,220 |
| Iksan County | 79,837 | 71,613 | 11,597 | 1,237 | 55,644 | 876 |
| Chinan County | 36,977 | 33,744 | 7,825 | 554 | 23,770 | 158 |
| Muju County | 26,894 | 24,972 | 8,091 | 978 | 14,372 | 263 |
| Changsu County | 27,341 | 24,709 | 4,520 | 362 | 18,578 | 100 |
| Namwon City | 30,646 | 27,994 | 4,065 | 346 | 22,740 | 108 |
| Imsil County | 41,282 | 37,601 | 6,002 | 436 | 29,140 | 161 |
| Namwon County | 48,758 | 43,659 | 6,984 | 579 | 33,889 | 154 |
| Sunchang County | 35,295 | 32,299 | 5,010 | 342 | 25,145 | 115 |
| Chongju City | 42,449 | 38,269 | 4,406 | 414 | 32,237 | 175 |
| Chongup County | 71,731 | 63,442 | 8,265 | 877 | 51,415 | 268 |
| Kochang County | 72,155 | 64,620 | 5,837 | 700 | 55,130 | 235 |
| Kimje County | 105,842 | 95,141 | 14,149 | 1,237 | 76,206 | 478 |
| Puan City | 69,656 | 61,654 | 8,294 | 708 | 50,051 | 284 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| SOUTH CHOLLA PROVINCE | 1,659,767 | 1,498,834 | 119,229 | 16,826 | 1,317,990 | 4,831 |
| Mokpo City | 127,237 | 116,112 | 6,337 | 692 | 106,587 | 283 |
| Muan County | 58,736 | 54,029 | 3,254 | 293 | 49,315 | 89 |
| Sinan County | 62,383 | 54,999 | 3,509 | 383 | 49,531 | 128 |
| Yosu City | 99,150 | 88,646 | 6,315 | 1,375 | 78,538 | 399 |
| Yochon County | 31,120 | 28,076 | 2,409 | 1,183 | 23,557 | 303 |
| Kwangyang County | 63,078 | 56,825 | 7,349 | 3,190 | 44,225 | 655 |
| Yochon City | 54,734 | 48,696 | 3,689 | 559 | 42,641 | 146 |
| Sunchon City | 73,584 | 67,503 | 5,202 | 1,101 | 58,580 | 401 |
| Kurye County | 29,933 | 26,869 | 2,919 | 256 | 22,696 | 95 |
| Sungju County | 61,545 | 54,514 | 4,569 | 569 | 47,359 | 177 |
| Naju City | 26,486 | 24,326 | 1,863 | 165 | 21,739 | 67 |
| Songjong City | 29,729 | 27,538 | 2,088 | 240 | 24,603 | 114 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|------------------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| Kwangsanh County | 50,873 | 46,369 | 2,980 | 371 | 41,679 | 182 |
| Naju County | 70,860 | 64,385 | 4,207 | 402 | 57,933 | 129 |
| Tamyang County | 50,996 | 47,231 | 3,482 | 360 | 41,402 | 117 |
| Koksong County | 37,174 | 34,343 | 3,424 | 335 | 29,221 | 81 |
| Hwasun County | 57,177 | 52,465 | 3,417 | 312 | 47,219 | 95 |
| Posong County | 67,138 | 59,021 | 5,932 | 440 | 50,574 | 150 |
| Kohung County | 100,985 | 89,973 | 8,432 | 740 | 78,191 | 141 |
| Changhung County | 52,475 | 47,141 | 3,803 | 413 | 41,430 | 124 |
| Kangjin County | 46,689 | 41,800 | 3,855 | 284 | 36,540 | 90 |
| Yongam County | 52,454 | 48,253 | 3,791 | 450 | 42,467 | 131 |
| Wando County | 63,136 | 57,972 | 4,540 | 412 | 51,626 | 122 |
| Haenam County | 88,102 | 79,262 | 6,250 | 611 | 70,148 | 141 |
| Chindo County | 41,506 | 36,641 | 3,780 | 342 | 31,200 | 85 |
| Yonggwang County | 64,674 | 57,415 | 5,227 | 647 | 49,149 | 168 |
| Hampyeong County | 49,121 | 43,861 | 3,138 | 300 | 39,213 | 79 |
| Changsong County | 48,692 | 44,569 | 3,108 | 401 | 39,627 | 139 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|--------------------------|-----------------|------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| NORTH KYONGSANG PROVINCE | 1,878,025 | 1,709,591 | 1,108,035 | 470,189 | 39,756 | 43,227 |
| Pohang City | 165,219 | 150,184 | 79,932 | 53,568 | 9,192 | 5,262 |
| Yongil County | 106,346 | 94,777 | 59,289 | 28,318 | 2,332 | 2,187 |
| Ulsung County | 10,015 | 9,012 | 6,050 | 2,414 | 209 | 147 |
| Kyongju City | 78,929 | 71,049 | 38,925 | 26,376 | 1,963 | 2,170 |
| Wolsong County | 94,078 | 84,730 | 50,317 | 28,262 | 1,224 | 2,181 |
| Chongdo County | 48,323 | 44,029 | 28,491 | 12,386 | 472 | 1,107 |
| Kimchon City | 45,915 | 41,975 | 25,167 | 13,849 | 991 | 1,177 |
| Sangju City | 32,999 | 29,715 | 20,450 | 7,169 | 748 | 662 |
| Qumnung County | 56,657 | 52,433 | 35,818 | 13,026 | 719 | 1,191 |
| Sangju County | 73,809 | 68,306 | 48,618 | 14,519 | 1,041 | 1,487 |
| Andong City | 64,292 | 57,517 | 32,870 | 20,618 | 1,424 | 1,337 |
| Uisong County | 78,986 | 73,322 | 48,508 | 20,193 | 962 | 1,467 |
| Andong County | 69,369 | 62,925 | 39,644 | 18,513 | 876 | 1,310 |
| Kumi City | 85,894 | 78,841 | 50,633 | 18,329 | 3,782 | 4,664 |
| Kunwi County | 29,697 | 27,497 | 20,545 | 5,630 | 213 | 323 |
| Chilgok County | 51,864 | 48,009 | 36,388 | 8,335 | 1,087 | 861 |
| Sonsan County | 44,008 | 40,875 | 30,551 | 7,222 | 527 | 1,581 |
| Yongju City | 48,484 | 44,119 | 25,800 | 15,775 | 896 | 799 |
| Yongyang County | 25,442 | 23,399 | 14,864 | 6,931 | 474 | 328 |
| Yongpung County | 46,425 | 41,252 | 26,204 | 12,530 | 504 | 666 |
| Ponghwa County | 46,126 | 43,034 | 30,118 | 10,023 | 618 | 747 |
| Talsong County | 56,038 | 51,955 | 38,225 | 10,061 | 1,052 | 939 |
| Koryong County | 28,656 | 26,547 | 19,100 | 5,755 | 291 | 415 |
| Songju County | 42,830 | 39,123 | 27,406 | 8,966 | 442 | 789 |
| Yongdok County | 47,568 | 43,329 | 29,063 | 12,064 | 431 | 481 |
| Chongsong County | 33,722 | 31,481 | 21,360 | 8,273 | 605 | 325 |
| Uljin County | 54,413 | 47,667 | 32,436 | 11,416 | 1,415 | 1,088 |
| Yongchon City | 29,175 | 26,480 | 17,268 | 7,278 | 689 | 541 |
| Yongchon County | 58,689 | 53,186 | 36,238 | 13,575 | 705 | 825 |
| Kyongsan County | 85,039 | 76,053 | 52,596 | 18,380 | 1,517 | 1,534 |
| Chomchon City | 29,341 | 26,626 | 16,740 | 7,102 | 600 | 1,513 |
| Mungyong County | 49,600 | 44,905 | 30,274 | 9,835 | 832 | 2,242 |
| Yechon County | 60,977 | 55,239 | 36,147 | 13,398 | 823 | 881 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| SOUTH KYONGSANG PROVINCE | 2,193,206 | 1,963,978 | 792,757 | 987,042 | 86,804 | 51,242 |
| Masan City | 255,968 | 229,826 | 68,434 | 141,325 | 10,674 | 5,722 |
| Ulsan Nam-ku | 129,106 | 116,453 | 51,290 | 50,185 | 8,053 | 5,128 |
| Ulsan Chung-ku | 222,805 | 198,948 | 84,547 | 81,647 | 20,380 | 9,130 |
| Ulju County | 81,349 | 72,949 | 32,961 | 33,315 | 2,226 | 2,437 |
| Chinju City | 129,073 | 116,777 | 45,156 | 63,113 | 3,830 | 2,521 |
| Samchmnpo City | 38,581 | 34,085 | 14,133 | 17,678 | 870 | 628 |
| Chinyang County | 55,213 | 50,456 | 23,207 | 23,973 | 715 | 1,085 |
| Sachon County | 40,301 | 36,059 | 16,210 | 17,058 | 866 | 709 |
| Changwon City | 124,578 | 112,953 | 36,217 | 61,410 | 10,141 | 3,758 |
| Chinhae City | 76,089 | 69,548 | 27,302 | 35,742 | 3,557 | 1,864 |
| Uichang County | 53,320 | 47,412 | 15,470 | 28,896 | 795 | 846 |
| Chungmu City | 52,531 | 46,020 | 15,155 | 28,409 | 1,134 | 552 |
| Tongyong County | 35,409 | 30,870 | 11,418 | 17,738 | 238 | 317 |
| Koje County | 92,909 | 82,337 | 14,437 | 59,659 | 5,524 | 1,006 |
| Kosong County | 54,365 | 47,887 | 17,193 | 27,424 | 667 | 1,020 |
| Uiryong County | 34,643 | 31,275 | 15,942 | 13,231 | 399 | 578 |
| Haman County | 49,472 | 44,664 | 18,742 | 22,190 | 782 | 1,605 |
| Hapchon County | 62,315 | 55,309 | 36,723 | 14,593 | 754 | 894 |
| Milyang County | 93,475 | 83,234 | 38,575 | 39,058 | 1,403 | 2,039 |
| Changnyong County | 64,374 | 57,286 | 28,815 | 24,512 | 703 | 1,250 |
| Kimhae City | 49,557 | 43,871 | 16,475 | 22,985 | 2,532 | 1,084 |
| Yangsan County | 90,880 | 80,671 | 35,578 | 36,903 | 3,964 | 2,214 |
| Kimhae County | 64,261 | 56,621 | 21,649 | 31,523 | 1,307 | 1,029 |
| Hadong County | 51,534 | 46,035 | 19,386 | 23,047 | 1,413 | 627 |
| Namhae County | 55,040 | 48,800 | 26,888 | 18,637 | 1,151 | 572 |
| Kochang County | 55,162 | 49,803 | 22,269 | 23,994 | 1,216 | 656 |
| Sanchong County | 39,174 | 35,729 | 18,892 | 14,364 | 539 | 636 |
| Hamyang County | 41,722 | 38,080 | 19,693 | 14,633 | 971 | 1,335 |

| | Eligible Voters | Votes Cast | No Tae-u | Kim Yong-sam | Kim Tae-chung | Kim Chong-pil |
|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|----------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| CHEJU PROVINCE | 280,872 | 248,598 | 120,502 | 64,844 | 45,139 | 10,930 |
| Cheju City | 117,400 | 103,917 | 45,396 | 29,864 | 20,896 | 5,649 |
| Sogwipo City | 48,001 | 42,916 | 18,578 | 10,677 | 10,320 | 2,102 |
| Pukcheju County | 64,104 | 55,917 | 31,017 | 13,559 | 7,253 | 2,039 |
| Namjeju County | 51,367 | 45,861 | 25,511 | 10,744 | 6,670 | 1,140 |

Burma

Combat Activities of People's, Shan Armies *BK200743 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Burma in Burmese 1200 GMT 18 Dec 87*

[Text] On 26 October 1987, mine warfare by a small People's Army unit in Wan Ta-Long, Mawhpa region, east of the Salween River, resulted in two enemy soldiers from the mercenary 101st Light Infantry Regiment being killed and three others wounded. Also on 2 November, mines planted by the People's Army near (Hkakala), northeast of (Kunlong), resulted in two enemy soldiers, including a major, from the military government's mercenary 7th Infantry Regiment being killed and another wounded.

On 28 November, a People's Army unit attacked enemy troops from the [words indistinct] near (Pan Chi Tok) in Mong Hsat region. The attack killed an enemy soldier and wounded two soldiers. One G-3 rifle was captured from the enemy. On the same day, a clash between a People's Army unit and the mercenary 65th Infantry Regiment in Loi-lang, east of Mong Hsat, resulted in four enemy soldiers being wounded.

On 2 December, a People's Army unit attacked the enemy soldiers from the military government's mercenary 17th Light Infantry Regiment near Nawnggheng, east of Ho-lan, in central Shan State. Two enemy soldiers were killed and seven others were wounded in the attack.

Combat news of a unit composed of People's Army and the Shan State Army [SSA] units: On 23 November, an attack by a combined unit of the People's Army and the SSA on the (Nontami) police station, northeast of Mong Hsu, resulted in five enemy soldiers being killed and five others wounded. Six firearms, several rounds of ammunition, and supplies were captured from the enemy.

Briefs

FRG Assistance

U Nyunt Maung, deputy minister of planning and finance, and Dr Walther Frelherr von Marschall, FRG ambassador to Burma, exchanged four memoranda of understanding at the conference hall of the Ministry of Planning and Finance this morning. Under the agreements, the FRG Government will provide the Government of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma with grants worth DM9.5 million, the equivalent of about 35.6 million kyat. The grants will be used in obtaining machinery and equipment and technical services for specific projects. The projects are the technical assistance project for raw materials production at cement factories, the project to start in Rangoon basic training for electronic technicians as part of an extended curricula of the Sinda Technical School, the project to

develop radio broadcasting, and the assistance program for technicians. [Excerpt] [*Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 22 Dec 87 BK*]

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Minister on Soviet Presence in Afghanistan *BK260802 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0752 GMT 26 Dec 87*

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Dec 26 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia is again appealing to the Soviet leaders to respond positively to the calls made by the international bodies like the United Nations, to expeditiously withdraw their forces from Afghanistan.

Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar said in a statement Saturday the Soviets should allow the Afghan people to decide their own future.

The statement was issued in conjunction with the eighth year of Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Minister Abu Hassan said Malaysia reiterated its support for the Afghans' struggle and wished them success.

Malaysia had only admiration and praise for the courage and tenacity of the Afghan mujahiddin fighters.

He said that despite their lack of sophistication and equipment compared to the occupying forces, these valiant warriors have steadfastly held on to their struggles, inflicting irreparable losses to their enemies.

Deputy Home Minister on New CPM Strategy *BK271410 Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 7 Dec 87 p 2*

[Text] Seberang Perak, Sunday—The outlawed Communist Party of Malaya [CPM] is currently using a new tactic to attract the elite and professional classes in the country to participate in its activities through united fronts. Deputy Home Minister Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayob said the CPM is masquerading behind trading companies which in fact do not conduct any trading activities; as a result of their involvement, these companies never succeed.

Speaking to newsmen after a dialogue with Bukit Chawi Paddy Plantation Scheme settlers here today, he said the CPM has changed from trying to influence the lower classes to trying to influence the elite and professional classes because their strategy to gain control of the country using the worn-out tactic had not been effective. He said the elite class which has become its target

include millionaires, social organization leaders, lecturers from higher institutions of learning, and other professionals. He said, "The slogan for the united front's struggle is information in the interests of the people and discreetly in the interest of the revolutionary spirit."

Datuk Megat Junid said the Home Ministry has proof concerning their activities and is monitoring these activities with the intention of stemming the united front's new strategy. He said, "Their activities include sending members to attend courses abroad in order to learn methods of picketing and conducting demonstrations."

Datuk Megat Junid also said the number of communist terrorists who are still active in the interior is currently diminishing with only 157 in the peninsula, 42 in Sarawak, and 1,300 more believed to be along the borders.

Briefs

Saudi Envoy Credentials

In Kuala Lumpur recently, his majesty the king received the credentials of the new Saudi Arabian ambassador to Malaysia Mr Fuad al-Khateeb. Mr al-Khateeb expressed confidence that bilateral relations between the two nations in several economic sectors will continue to widen. [Summary] *[Kuala Lumpur BERITA HARIAN in Malay 12 Dec 87 p 2 BK]*

Singapore

Lee Kuan Yew Responses to Press Criticism

BK281226 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 28 Dec 87

[Text] Mr Lee Kuan Yew says he has to stand firm when accusations are made that portray him as a person intolerant of the Catholic Church and persecuting its clergy. In a live interview with the BBC this afternoon, in its "24 Hours" program, the prime minister said he was not overreacting to press criticism. Referring to action taken against the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW [FEER], Mr Lee said he had to stand firm against allegations that he had tricked, cornered, or trapped the Catholic archbishop of Singapore into making statements at a press conference which he felt that he could not deny.

Mr Lee said he also had to stand firm when he was accused of manipulating the press and television into excluding statements which the archbishop did make. The prime minister said these were not light-hearted accusations.

He gave the editor of the REVIEW, Mr Derek Davies, an opportunity to withdraw the allegations made in an article it published on the Marxist conspiracy; but Mr Davies refused. Mr Lee said Mr Davies has now to prove that what had been written is true or withdraw.

The article, "New Light on Detentions" in the REVIEW's 17 December issue, made allegations against the prime minister's conduct and that of his government.

The government is restricting the circulation of the FEER from the present 9,000 copies to 500 from tomorrow.

Mr Lee said his lawyers had demanded a retraction of the allegations, an apology, and damages. The REVIEW has until Wednesday afternoon to respond.

Mr Lee told the BBC that he felt the punishment suited the crime of telling falsehood that the REVIEW had refused to withdraw.

Cambodia

Afghan President Arrives 29 December

BK291151 Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1100 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] At the invitation of the KPRP Central Committee and the PRK Council of State, the high-ranking party and state delegation of the Republic of Afghanistan led by Comrade Najibullah, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and president of the Republic of Afghanistan, arrived in Phnom Penh, capital of the PRK, at 1400 [0200 GMT] on 29 December for an official friendship visit.

Upon arrival at Pochentong Airport, the delegation was warmly and cordially welcomed by Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the KPRP Central Committee and chairman of the PRK Council of State; Comrade Say Phuthang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of State; Comrade Bou Thang, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Chea Soth, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Nguon Nhel, alternate member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the Phnom Penh Municipality's provisional party committee; and comrade members of the party Central Committee, ministers, leaders of front and mass organizations, cadres, personnel, and workers from various central ministries and departments, and about 600 people and students.

Also present at the airport were the ambassadors, charge d'affaires, and representatives of various embassies in Cambodia.

This afternoon, the high-ranking party and state delegation of the Republic of Afghanistan laid wreaths at the monument commemorating the fallen Cambodian combatants and visited the Tuol Sleng Museum of Genocide.

SPK Welcomes Najibullah

*BK291255 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1120 GMT
29 Dec 87*

["Welcome Afghan People's Messengers"—SPK headline]

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 29—The Kampuchean people warmly welcome the visit of the Afghan high-level party and state delegation, considering it an important contribution to strengthening the long-standing friendly relations between the two countries.

In the past nearly decade, the Afghan people, under the clear-sighted leadership of the People's Democratic Party (PDPA) and the Government of Afghanistan, have, through their courageous struggle full of difficulties and sacrifices, firmly defended the gains of their April Revolution and made great progress on their chosen path, notwithstanding all dark schemes of the imperialists and reactionaries.

As masters of their country and the means of production, the Afghan people have, under the new regime, done all they can to restore and develop the agricultural and industrial production, eliminating the legacy of the former regime, repairing and building irrigation networks, roads, schools and hospitals in rural areas. The new regime, in its literacy campaign participated by more than 20,000 teachers, has freed over one million adult illiterates left behind by the former regime from letter-blindness.

As slaves in the old regimes, the Afghan women now have been emancipated, fully enjoying their right to work and equality to men; religious belief, which used to be in trouble, is now freely practised.

Noticeably, the reconciliation policy issued on January 3, 1987 by the Afghan Government, which meets the aspirations of the Afghan people, who are uniting around the PDPA in building a new life, has brought forth good results. Some 62,000 Afghan refugees have returned to their homeland, 25,000 enemy troops broke with enemy rank and reported themselves to the revolutionary authorities and 1,300 villages are now under the control of the revolutionary power.

With its foreign policy of peace, independence and friendship, the Republic of Afghanistan has enjoyed increasing support from world public opinion and its international prestige has constantly risen. These successes have helped consolidate the young republic's position and testified to the correct path chosen by the Afghan people through their April Revolution. They have also contributed to other peoples' common struggle for peace, stability, security, cooperation, and progress in the region and the world at large.

As comrade-in-arms of the Afghan people, the Kampuchean people have closely followed the Afghan people's revolutionary struggle and their progresses considering them a source of great encouragement.

The Kampuchean people, who, like the Afghan people, have been victimized by outside intervention and internal conflicts, voice full support for the fraternal Afghan people's just struggle for an independent and prosperous Afghanistan. They condemn the imperialists and reactionary forces for their perfidious moves against the Afghan people and demand that an immediate end be put to their undeclared war against Afghanistan. The Kampuchean people are convinced that the high-level Afghan delegation's visit this time will contribute an important part to the consolidation of friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries.

The just struggle of the Afghan people will certainly win.

Second Indochinese Labor Conference Held

SRV, Lao Delegations Arrive

*BK250638 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1115 GMT
24 Dec 87*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 24—Vietnamese and Lao labour delegations have arrived here to attend the second labour conference of the three Indochinese countries, which opens here this afternoon.

The Vietnamese delegation is led by Le Khac Hieu, deputy-minister of disabled soldiers and social affairs, and the Lao delegation by Khamphet Phommavan, vice-chairman of the Lao State Planning Committee.

The first labour conference of the three Indochinese countries was held in March, 1986 in Vientiane, Laos which ended up in the signing of accords on labour cooperation in the economic, cultural and scientific fields among the three countries.

Meeting Opens

*BK250634 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0417 GMT
25 Dec 87*

[Text] Phnom Penh, 25 Dec (SPK)—The second Indochinese conference on labor was held in Phnom Penh yesterday afternoon in the presence of Chea Chanto, alternate member of the KPRP Central Committee and minister of planning.

The Cambodian delegation was headed by Keo Samut, deputy minister of planning; that of Vietnam by Khac Kieu, deputy minister of labor and social welfare; and that of Laos by Khamphet Phommavan, vice chairman of the State Planning Committee.

Pheli Khounlaleuk, Lao ambassador, and Nguyen Anh Kieu, Vietnamese charge d'affaires to Cambodia, were present.

The participants heard reports on the implementation by each party to the agreement concluded during the first conference held in Vientiane in March 1986, and had a complete identity of views on all questions raised.

They decided that the third conference on this matter will take place in Vietnam. The date will be set later.

Hun Sen Reassumes Foreign Minister's Post
*BK291223 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1143 GMT
29 Dec 87*

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 29—Kampuchean Premier Hun Sen has again assumed the post of foreign minister of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, said a decree issued recently by the Kampuchean State Council.

The former foreign minister, Mr Kong Korm, now works as an assistant to the chairman of the Council of Ministers, in charge of social and cultural affairs.

KPRP Political Bureau Meeting Reported
*BK290658 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0443 GMT
29 Dec 87*

[Text] Phnom Penh, 29 Dec (SPK)—The Political Bureau of the KPRP Central Committee highly appreciated the support of the Lao party, government, and people for the Cambodian people's just struggle, particularly the PRK's national reconciliation policy.

Meeting on 26 December to listen to a report by Hun Sen, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, on his recent talks in Vientiane with Kaysone Phomvihane, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee, and other leaders of the Lao party and state, the Political Bureau expressed satisfaction with the result of these talks, which focussed on problems relating to a political solution to the Cambodian problem.

It was convinced that the special relations of friendship and multiform cooperation between Cambodia and Laos and among the three Indochinese countries will further develop.

At the same meeting, the audience listened to a report by Nguon Nhel, alternate member of the Political Bureau, secretary of the Phnom Penh Party Committee, and head of the KPRP delegation to the 26th Congress of the French Communist Party held from 2 to 6 December in Paris.

The Political Bureau approved the delegation's activities at the congress and highly appreciated the meetings between Nguon Nhel and leaders of the French Communist Party and delegations from Communist Parties and workers attending the congress, considering them as highly advantageous to the mutual understanding and development of relations between these parties and the

KPRP. It called the support and assistance of the communist and French people, in the past as well as in the present, a source of encouragement for the Cambodian people in their just struggle and a contribution to the search for a solution to the Cambodian problem and the issue of peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world.

Chea Sim, Others at KUFNCD Meeting
*BK290741 Phnom Penh Domestic Service
in Cambodian 1300 GMT 28 Dec 87*

[Text] On the morning of 28 December at the Chatomuk Conference Hall, the seventh enlarged meeting of the KUFNCD National Council was held to assess the results of the front's activities in 1987, past experience, and set targets for the tasks to be carried out in 1988.

Presiding over this solemn occasion were Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State; Comrade Chea Sim, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly and the KUFNCD National Council; Comrade Hun Sen, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Bou Thang, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee and vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Comrade Mat Ly, member of the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee, vice chairman of the National Assembly, and chairman of the Kampuchean Federation of Trade Unions; Comrade Mean Sam-An, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Kampuchean Revolutionary Women's Association; Comrade Sam Sundoeun, member of the party Central Committee and first secretary of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Youth Union Committee; Comrade Koy Buntha, member of the party Central Committee and defense minister; Tep Vong, vice chairman of the National Assembly and the KUFNCD National Council; leading cadres from various central establishments and services in the municipality and provinces; monks; representatives from municipal and provincial fronts throughout the country; and many Muslim leaders. The comrade ambassadors and representatives of various friendly countries accredited to Cambodia were also present.

After the national anthem and after paying respect to ancestors and heroic combatants who have sacrificed their lives for the cause to liberate the nation, class, and people from old and new colonialist yokes, imperialism, and the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary genocidal regime, Comrade Chea Sim gave the opening address. He said:

[Begin recording] Our meeting is taking place following our celebration of the front's ninth anniversary on 2 December and following the First Congress of the Kampuchean Journalists Association, which was an important event testifying to the development of the Cambodian mass information network. Our meeting is taking

place at a time when our entire people are actively striving to implement the country's development plans. Cambodians currently living abroad are heading back to the fatherland in accordance with the appeal of the PRK's national reconciliation policy. Our meeting is taking place at a time when the situation in the world and in the region is undergoing changes which favor the advance of our revolution.

This year, the world's peace movement is reaching a high peak, thus providing another degree of relief to mankind. The summit meeting and signing between Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU, and U.S. President Reagan, of the treaty eliminating medium- and short-range nuclear weapons, together with progressive and peace-loving people the world over [words indistinct] vigorously acclaim the Soviet-U.S. treaty and consider it as an historic victory of realistic political activities and the mutually understood desire to resolve mankind's problems. We would like to express gratitude to the CPSU and the Soviet Government, and Comrade general secretary Gorbachev for the initiative and firmness in affirming new and realistic [words indistinct] to set up an international security network in the military, political, economic, and humanitarian fields to avoid confrontation and contribute to stability in international relations.

Our meeting wholeheartedly supports the national reconciliation policy and the statement of the PRK on a political solution to the Cambodian problem aimed at quickly ending the war which has dragged on for many years in our beloved land. We warmly welcome the success of the talks between Comrade Chairman of the Council of Ministers Hun Sen and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk in early December in France and consider it as a first important step toward finding a real solution to the Cambodian problem and a contribution to peace in Southeast Asia. The four-point statement in Paris is proof of the PRK's efforts to implement the national reconciliation policy, which responds to the insistent desire of the Cambodian people who want a durable peace to build and develop their fatherland.

All this is in our favor in our advance toward new victories. The many successes scored by the Cambodian people in every field and in building and defending the fatherland did not please the enemies and their masters. On the contrary, these successes have further hurt and frustrated them. However, before their death, the enemies will try to attack us militarily, politically, and diplomatically with more vigor and savagery with the aim of hindering the national reconciliation process and a political solution to the Cambodian problem. In short, the enemies have only changed their tactics but their strategic maneuver has remained the same. Therefore, a heavy task is awaiting us.

The request to build and defend the fatherland and revolutionary gains demand that our front be more vigorous in rallying the nation's forces to build and

defend the country, strengthening and expanding real revolutionary forces throughout the country, and in attracting potential forces abroad to advance the PRK toward socialism with a noble civilization in accordance with its slogan of independence, peace, freedom, and happiness.

It is with this success that today the KUFNCD National Council is holding the seventh enlarged meeting with the participation of monks, Muslim leaders, and members of the front's National Council and all levels of the front [words indistinct] to assess the results of the front's activities, past experiences, shortcomings, and set targets for a new phase to welcome the front's fourth congress next year.

I appeal to distinguished members attending this conference to use their full democratic rights with a responsible spirit to strive to actively take part in discussions and provide precious contributions in expressing their opinions aimed at achieving brilliant successes at the meeting.

On behalf of the Presidium, I declare the seventh enlarged conference of the KUFNCD National Council open. [applause] [end recording] Afterward, Comrade Ros Chhun, alternate member of the party Central Committee and general secretary of the KUFNCD National Council, read a report summing up the results of the front's activities in the past year; highly valued the efforts of all levels of the front throughout the country in promoting the movements of the people and masses and implementing the policies toward religion, intellectuals, and ethnic minorities, in particular the activities, both their strong and weak points, of Muslims leaders; and set targets for the front's activities in the coming years appropriate to the progress toward great and new victories of the current Cambodian revolution.

In the afternoon of the same day, members of the audience attentively listened to a speech by Comrade Heng Samrin, general secretary of the party Central Committee, chairman of the Council of State, and honorary chairman of the KUFNCD National Council, who provided guidance to all levels of the front to rally more forces of the people and masses to the revolution and reduce and isolate those of the enemies until they become weak, and appealed to compatriots, who have been misled by enemy maneuver, to return to society and nation to build and defend an independent, peaceful, neutral, and nonaligned Cambodian fatherland.

VODK Appeals to Cambodian Soldiers To Mutiny
BK270520 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea
in Cambodian 2330 GMT 26 Dec 87

[Appeal: "Cambodian soldiers in all areas should quickly mutiny against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors"]

[Text] Dear fraternal Cambodian soldiers everywhere:

The Hanoi authorities's war of aggression in Cambodia has lasted for 9 years now. During these 9 years, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have become more seriously bogged down. They are heading toward an inevitable defeat.

As they are suffering seriously in all fields, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors have intensified massacres against the Cambodian people, particularly the fraternal Cambodian soldiers who are under their control.

As all of you have seen, every day, every month, and each passing year, the Vietnamese aggressors have ordered you to fight against your fellow Cambodians and die in their place. They ordered you to walk before them and clear mines and punji stakes for them while they fired at and killed you from behind. They starved you, deprived you of all kinds of necessities—medicines, clothing, blankets, mosquito-nets, and hammocks—and made you live only in trenches and stay days and nights in the filthy ground exposed to the sun, wind, and rain and exposed to all kinds of bullets in their place.

If you survive, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors will raise false accusations and slanders against you, arrest, jail, torture, and kill you in a most cruel and fascist manner.

For example, on 29 November the Vietnamese enemy aggressors arrested 30 fraternal Cambodian soldiers posted at Sre Kol position, Phnum Sruoch District, Kompong Speu Province, and imprisoned them in a jail in Phnom Penh. They cruelly and barbarously tortured these Cambodian soldiers, accusing them of having contacts with our National Army. On the same day, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors arrested 28 other Cambodian soldiers posted at Sre Khlong position, Chhuk District, Kampot Province, and imprisoned them at Tuol Sleng in Phnom Penh. They tortured these Cambodian soldiers very cruelly to the point that these soldiers died one after another.

These most cruel and barbarous crimes committed by the Vietnamese enemy aggressors against the above-mentioned Cambodian soldiers and many other Cambodian soldiers during the past 9 years clearly attest that the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors do not want any Cambodian to survive. Their strategic aim is to annex Cambodia and exterminate our Cambodian race so that they can realize the late Ho Chi Minh's Indochinese Federation strategy to turn Cambodia into a part of Vietnam for use as a springboard toward fulfilling Vietnam's medium-size Indochinese federation and the great Indochinese federation and advance toward dominating the whole of Southeast Asia and the Asia-Pacific region.

Dear Cambodian soldiers, you have seen this clearly with your own eyes. Therefore, you should hurry. You should inform each other, from one person to another and from one unit to another, about these events and jointly mutiny and attack the Vietnamese enemy aggressors before them.

Today, they arrested and killed 58 fraternal Cambodian soldiers in Kompong Speu and Kampot Provinces. Tomorrow and the day after, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors will certainly arrest and kill even you or your friends and relatives.

The only way for you and our Cambodian nation and race to survive is to turn jointly against the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and free yourselves. You may then flee to join our National Army of Democratic Kampuchea or back home in order to join with our people in the struggle to drive all the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors out of our villages and our Cambodian territory as soon as possible.

Laos

Chebrikov Arrives; Meets Kaysone Phomvihane
BK280251 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0000 GMT 28 Dec 87

[Text] In response to an invitation of the LPRP Central Committee and the LPDR Government, Comrade Chebrikov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Committee for State Security of the Soviet Union, arrived in Vientiane by a special plane on the morning of 27 December for an official friendship visit to our country.

Comrade Chebrikov was warmly welcomed upon his arrival at Wattai Airport by Comrade General Khamtai Siphandon, Political Bureau member of the LPRP Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of national defense, and commander in chief of the LPA Comrade A-sang Laoli, member of the party Central Committee and minister of interior; Comrade Khamphai Boupha, member of the Party Central Committee and first deputy minister of foreign affairs; and comrade deputy ministers of interior along with a number of police officers.

Comrade Yuriy Mikheyev, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Soviet Union, together with staff members of the Soviet Embassy to Laos, were also on hand to welcome Comrade Chebrikov at the airport.

On the afternoon of the same day, Comrade Chebrikov laid a wreath at the Monument of Revolutionary Combatants. He also visited the LPA Museum, accompanied by Comrade Gen Khamtai Siphandon, Comrade A-sang Laoli, and Comrade Khamphai Boupha.

On the same day, Comrade Kaysone Phomvihane, general secretary of the LPRP Central Committee and chairman of the LPDR Council of Ministers, received Comrade Chebrikov, Politburo member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Committee for State Security of the Soviet Union, who is currently on an official friendship visit to our country. In a conversation which proceeded in an atmosphere of close friendship, Comrade Chebrikov expressed a great pleasure

over the warm welcome accorded to him by Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane. He also praised and hailed the victories and achievements scored by the Lao people in the cause of building and defending the country. Comrade Chebrikov also took this occasion to further inform Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane of the success of the Washington summit meeting between Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and President Ronald Reagan of the United States, as well as the success in the signing of the treaty on the elimination of intermediate- and short-range nuclear missiles. Once again, Comrade Chebrikov highly appreciated the consistent efforts of the party, government, and people of Laos as well as of the governments and peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia to turn Southeast Asia into a region of peace, stability, and cooperation to contribute to the cause of safeguarding world peace and security.

On this occasion, Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane expressed a wholehearted welcome to Comrade Chebrikov on the occasion of his visit to Laos. He highly assessed the success of the summit meeting and the signing of the treaty on the elimination of intermediate- and short-range nuclear missiles between the Soviet Union and the United States. He regarded the success as the fruit of the tireless efforts of the Soviet Union in continually implementing the Leninist policy of peace and, on the other hand, as the Soviet achievements in the reconstruction in accordance with the open policy in the Soviet Union as well as with the new viewpoints in other socialist countries.

Both Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane and Comrade Chebrikov expressed satisfaction over the fruitful promotion and daily development of the great relations of friendship and all-round cooperation between the two parties, two states, and two peoples of Laos and the Soviet Union.

Accompanying Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane in receiving the guest on this occasion were Comrade Gen Khamtai Siphandon, member of the Political Bureau of the LPRP Central Committee, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, minister of national defense, and commander in chief of the LPA; Comrade A-sang Laoli and Comrade Brigadier General Khamphon Boutdakham, respectively minister and deputy minister of interior. Comrade Yuriy Mikheyev, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Soviet Union to Laos also accompanied Comrade Chebrikov in paying a call on Comrade General Secretary Kaysone Phomvihane on this occasion.

On the evening of the same day, Comrade Gen Khamtai Siphandon, also held a banquet to welcome Comrade Chebrikov in a warm atmosphere.

Further Reaction to Reported Thai Attacks

Spokesman Cited on Violations

BK241328 Vientiane KPL in English
0906 GMT 24 Dec 87

[Text] Vientiane, December 24 (KPL)—A press conference on Thai violation of the Lao sovereignty and territorial integrity was given here on December 23 by the Foreign Ministry's spokesman Phanthong Phommahasai.

Addressing both Lao and foreign newsmen, the Lao spokesman said:

Four months ago, the Thai 3rd Army Region, assuring the security for Thai private merchants who illegally crossed the frontier into Lao territory for the purpose of cutting timber in the vicinity of Soi Dao mountain, west of Boten District in Sayaboury Province, launched a number of clashes with militia-men and local armed forces of the district. The Thai 3rd Army Region still occupies parts of Lao territory of that area.

In fact, over the last 80 years, after the treaty of 1907 was jointly signed by France and Siam, the Thai side has never administered this part of the territory since the treaty clearly defines that the southern boundary of Luang Prabang adjacent to Thailand started from the mouth of Heuang River, a tributary of the Mekong, up to its source and that border be [as received] followed by the watershed between the Mekong and Chao Phraya Rivers, which in reality is the ridges of Soi Dao Mountain itself. Hence, the above-mentioned territory, which at present belongs to Taseng Na Bo Noi District, Sayaboury Province and has a common border with the Thai Phitsanulok and Loei Provinces, was under the French Administration and has always been under the Lao Administration with the clear demarcation posts. Recently, the Thai 3rd Army Region, starting from 15 to 17 December, repeated its attacks and aggressions against the Lao territory in the area with the support of a number of jet fighter-bombers. It salvoed 109 and 155 mm shells at heights 1428, 1370 and others in this area so as to prepare for the advance and occupation of these areas by the 3rd Army Region infantry.

Phanthong Phommahasai added that the Thai Army of the Third Army Region, since then, has repeated its armed attacks against Laos.

On December 22, 1987 from 11.00 hrs-15.00 hrs, Thai 105 and 155 mm artillery heavily fired at the heights 1370, 1428, Phou Vieng and Phou Kongdeun. And the pounding by the Thai side restarted from 15.00 hrs to 18.00 hrs.

These acts of violation against the Lao territory by Thai infantry, the aggression by Thai artillery and fighter-bombers, not in response to any provocative manifestation by the Lao side, are considered most serious ones in

the last twelve years, since the establishment of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. It is, therefore, a sacred duty of the government and people of Laos to firmly safeguard their territorial integrity.

At the same time, the Lao Government ardently aspires to entertain good neighbourly relations with neighbouring countries, particularly with the Kingdom of Thailand since the peoples of the two nations have had neighbourly relations from time immemorial. Despite the incident occurred in its territory of Boten District, Sayaboury Province, the Lao Government seeks solution to the problems through negotiation. The Lao Government, therefore, reaffirms its proposal put forward to Thailand for the third round negotiation so as to create conditions to solve problems. If the Thai side, for the sake of the legitimate interests of the two peoples of Thailand and Laos, accepts the invitation of the Lao side, it would constitute a good opportunity for promoting mutual understandings between the two sides.

Chemical Weapons Use Charged

*BK281410 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 28 Dec 87*

[Text] According to the latest news reports from the area, at 1600 on 27 December, the reactionary troops from the Thai Third Army Region fired chemical-tipped shells from 155-mm artillery pieces into the vicinity of Hill 1428 west of Boten District in Sayaboury Province. The report said that from 0700 to 1200 today [28 December], the Thai reactionary troops used 105-mm and 155-mm artillery to further bombard Hill 1370 and Hill 1428.

The sinister and barbarous acts of the Thai reactionaries in the 3d Army Region clearly prove the Thai side's intention to continue their scheme to seize Lao territory and escalate hostile activities against Laos. This is the first time that the Thai side has used chemical weapons, a breach of international law, which prohibits the use of chemical weapons anywhere in the world. They must put an end to these cruel and barbarous acts, or they must be held fully responsible for this violation of international law and regulation.

KPL Report on Chemical Weapons

*BK291010 Vientiane KPL in English
0902 GMT 29 Dec 87*

["Thai Chemical Weapons Against Laos"—KPL headline]

[Text] Vientiane, December 29 (KPL)—Thai reactionaries in the Third Army Region, on December 27 at 16.00 hrs used 155-mm artillery to fire chemical shells at the Lao Height 1428 situated in the west of Boten District, the northwestern province of Sayaboury, reported a local source.

On December 28 from 07.00 hrs to 12.00 hrs, Thai reactionaries once again heavily fired 105-mm-155-mm shells to the heights 1370 and 1428.

Such brutal acts of Thai reactionaries in the Third Army Region clearly point to the fact that the Thai side still pursues to seize Lao territory and to aggravate the situation to the detriment of the Lao side.

The Thai side's introduction of chemical weapons against Laos is the most serious conduct. It is a violation of the international law forbidding the use of chemical weapons. Therefore, the Thai side has to stop such brutal ways, otherwise, it shall have to bear all responsibility.

Since December 25, Thai Lieutenant General Siri Thivaphan, commander of the Third Army Region and Major General Phairot Chanulai, commander of the Thai First Cavalry Division personally involved in commanding and giving orders to the Thai army to continue its attack and as soon as possible occupy the Lao territory. [sentence as received]

The escalation of hostility by the Thai Third Army and the use of naked force are aimed at exerting pressure on Laos the grave consequences of which might be seriously far reaching.

Radio Reports on Attacks

*BK241508 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 24 Dec 87*

[Text] According to reports from Boten District of Sayaboury Province, at 0930 [0230 GMT] on 21 December, troops from the Thai Third Army Region continuously bombarded Height 1428 and Height 1370 with 105-mm and 155-mm artillery pieces. At 0500 on 22 December, they fired more artillery shells into the area until midday. Three hours later, their infantrymen, supported by artillery shelling, launched an assault to capture Height 1370 about 7 to 8 km deep inside Lao territory. However, they met with strong resistance from the local forces of Boten District and suffered heavy casualties before being forced to withdraw.

At 0900 on 23 December, the ultrarightist warlords in the Thai 3d Army Region again used 105-mm and 155 mm artillery pieces to bombard the same heights. From 1045 to 1215, three Thai jet aircraft flew nine sorties on three different occasions to drop 250-kg-type bombs on the area.

During an interview in Chiang Rai Province on 23 December, General Sunthon Khongsomphong, Thai military chief of staff, accused the Lao side of having sent troops to intrude 3 km into Thai territory. This fact-distorting accusation was designed to conceal the Thai intention of seizing Lao territory, which runs completely counter to the UN Charter, the Lao-Thai

joint communiques signed in 1979, and the aspirations of the Lao and Thai people, who wish to safeguard the good neighborly and brotherly ties which have existed since time immemorial.

Thai Troops Continue Shelling

*BK260925 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0000 GMT 26 Dec 87*

[Text] At present, the reactionary soldiers of the Thai Third Region Army have not yet abandoned their dark scheme of continuing to attack and nibble at the Lao territory west of Boten District, Sayaboury Province.

At 1100 [0400 GMT] on 24 December, the reactionary soldiers of the Thai 3d Region Army used six 155-mm artillery pieces to simultaneously salvo Height 1428. At the same time, they also deployed infantry forces to assault Height 1146. To defend the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity which cannot be destroyed by any enemies, and exercising our just right of self-defense, the militia combatants and regional forces of Boten District mounted a counterattack and repulsed them.

At 1305 on the same day, the reactionary soldiers of the Thai 3d Region Army used 105-mm and 155-mm artillery pieces to heavily bombard the Phou Soi Dao mountain.

The successive serious acts committed by the reactionary soldiers of the Thai 3d Region Army on Lao territory in this area have seriously encroached on the democratic rights and territorial integrity of Laos. They have also run counter to the spirit of the 1979 joint Lao-Thai communiques as well as the aspirations of the Lao and Thai peoples who wish to forever maintain the time-honored brotherly relations.

Thai Envoy Summoned

*BK281445 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
1200 GMT 28 Dec 87*

[Text] At 1630 today, Sombat Chounlamani, chief of Department 3 of the Foreign Ministry, summoned Niran Phanuphong, Thai ambassador to Laos, to a meeting at the Foreign Ministry to hand over a diplomatic note on the latest developments in the continuation and intensification of the assaults and encroachment on Lao territory west of Boten District in Sayaboury Province by the reactionary troops of the Thai 3d Army Region.

The Foreign Ministry's note to the Thai Government cited the grave incidents perpetrated by the reactionary troops of the Thai 3d Army Region, in particular the use of 105-mm and 155-mm artillery pieces and F-5 aircraft to continuously bombard Lao territory and provide protection for many battalions of infantrymen to launch assaults and seize this territory from 18 to 27 December. Worse still, yesterday the Thai side also fired artillery shells containing toxic chemicals at the Lao position on

Height 1428. This is the first time that the Thai side has used this type of weapon. It is obvious that the troops of the Thai 3d Army Region are becoming more and more involved in the war of aggression against Laos every day.

During the meeting, Sombat Chounlamani also presented the statement of the LPDR Foreign Ministry dated 27 December 1987 and diplomatic note on the LPDR Foreign Ministry's view in searching for solutions to the problems in connection with relations between the two countries including the incidents which took place in Boten District of Sayaboury Province, demanding that the Thai Government seek measures to quickly end these incidents and arrive at ways to solve their problems through peaceful means compatible with the Lao-Thai and Thai-Lao joint communiques of 1979.

Vientiane Holds Rally

*BK261121 Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao
0500 GMT 26 Dec 87*

[Text] This morning, more than 1,000 Vientiane residents representing the people of all strata, age groups, and both sexes in Vientiane municipality and throughout the country held a mass rally at the Vientiane theater to protest against and solemnly condemn the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles for deploying soldiers from the Third Army Region to attack and nibble at the Lao territory in Na Banoi canton, Boten District, Sayaboury Province.

Addressing the rally, Chan Long Inthavong, standing member of the municipal party committee, member of the Lao Front for National Construction [LFNC] Central Committee and chairman of the LFNC committee of Vientiane municipality, pointed to the acts of aggression and intrusion committed by the Thai Third Army Region soldiers against the Lao territory, thereby encroaching on the territorial integrity of the LPDR. He also described the acts committed by the Thai ultrarightist reactionary soldiers who since 15 December have deployed infantry forces supported by the bombardment by 105-mm and 155-mm artillery to launch attacks on heights 1428 and 1370, and the other heights.

More serious still, they have also sent F-5's to drop 250-kg bombs on the said heights in Na Banoi canton, Boten District, Sayaboury Province. So far, the soldiers of the Thai Third Army Region are still continuing nibbling attacks against Lao territory.

Chan Long Inthavong stressed: [Begin recording] The above-mentioned incidents are intentional acts of overt encroachment and aggression. Thai infantry and artillery units together with many jet planes have launched nibbling attacks and aggressed against Lao territory in the area. This is not the first time and it is not a coincidence but an act of hostility committed with a scheme of multifaceted destructive war against the LPDR. It is the most serious warlike act ever committed in the past 12 years. It lies in the scheme of the Thai ultrarightist

reactionaries. Their acts constitute the most serious encroachment on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the LPDR. They also run counter to the UN Charter despite the fact that Thailand itself is also a member of this organization. They have also undermined the prevailing amicable atmosphere and run counter to the efforts to find ways to settle problems through negotiations. They have run counter to the overall trend of the international relations at present. They have trampled on the spirit and letter of the joint Lao-Thai and Thai-Lao communiques signed by the governments of the two countries in 1979, aimed at turning the entire Lao-Thai border into a frontier of peace and friendship on the basis of respect for each other's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. These acts have run counter to the just interests of the Lao and Thai peoples who always wish that the time-honored brotherly and neighborly relations be further improved and enhanced. [end Chan Long Inthavong recording]

After reaffirming the good intention of our Lao Government and people who always want to maintain good brotherly and neighborly relations between the Lao and Thai peoples, Chan Long Inthavong pointed out the intention of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries who do not want to see that this problem is settled through peaceful means. He said:

[Begin Chan Long Inthavong recording] The Thai ultrarightist reactionaries, especially the Thai Third Army Region soldiers, have employed a trick aimed at preventing the said problem from being settled peacefully because they want to settle it by the use of force. They have paid no heed to the condemnation voiced by the world people, including the Thai people themselves. They have not positively responded to the good will of the Lao Government and people. They still continue to make the situation of their aggression against the Lao territory in the area to become tense with every passing day. Moreover, they have also distorted the truth by accusing Laos of provocations and intruding into Thai territory in order to fool public opinion in Thailand and in the world with a view to covering up their dark scheme. If the Thai side sincerely wishes to improve Lao-Thai relations and to turn the Lao-Thai border into a frontier of peace and friendship, it should give a positive reply to the proposal of the Lao side to hold the third round of talks in Vientiane. [end recording]

Chan Long Inthavong stressed that the use of force this time, like that committed by the Thai side against the three Lao villages in 1984, is not a method for solving international problems. Therefore, if the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries remain obdurate to pursue the old line of using force to settle problems as they did in the past, they will undoubtedly suffer even more painful defeats. Thus, the Thai side must be held solely responsible for any serious consequences arising from their action. The Lao Government and people always adhere to the spirit of fraternal friendship with the Thai people as stipulated in the spirit and letter of the 1979 joint Lao-Thai and

Thai-Lao communiques. But we are resolved to fight to defend ourselves. We will absolutely never allow anyone to encroach on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Laos or to nibble at Lao territory. We demand that the responsible Thai authorities and Thai people employ drastic measures to halt immediately all undesirable hostile acts against Laos and create all favorable conditions for solving the problems between the two countries—Laos and Thailand—peacefully. This method conforms to the overall trend of the world and the region. It is the only reasonable method which will lead to the settlement of other problems with a view to improving the brotherly relations of friendship between Laos and Thailand for the interests of the peoples of the two countries and for peace and stability in Southeast Asia and the world.

Chan Long Inthavong stressed at the end: We call on the Thai people, who have maintained a tradition of heroism and have made noble sacrifices in their struggle against all forms of injustice, to join hands with the Lao people to preserve the brotherly and neighborly relations between the Lao and Thai peoples and to make them last forever so that no one will be able to destroy them. We call on the peoples and governments of all countries throughout the world to contribute to promoting peaceful negotiations, to halt all criminal acts of the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries, and to render sympathy and support to the just struggle of the Lao people to defend and build their own country, thereby contributing to the cause of safeguarding peace, stability, and cooperation Southeast Asia and the world.

At the end, the rally unanimously adopted a resolution expressing commendation and strong support to the regional forces and people of Sayaboury Province for fighting gallantly against the aggression and nibbling attacks by the Thai Third Army Region to defend our territory and to drive the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries forces from Lao soil. It resolutely demands that the Thai side cease all acts of hostility, provocations, aggression, nibbling attacks, and intrusions into Lao territory both in the air and on the ground and unconditionally and immediately withdraw their troops from Lao soil.

The resolution also calls on the Thai people of all strata and peace- and justice-loving people throughout the world to simultaneously protest against and condemn the hostile acts of the Thai side and to seek ways to settle this problem through peaceful means. It calls on the entire Lao people to heighten a sense of vigilance and to stand ready to smash all all-round schemes and acts of the enemies so as to securely safeguard the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of Laos, contributing to the cause of peace, stability, and cooperation in the region and the world.

Envoy Meets UN Chief

BK251012 Vientiane KPL in English 0904 GMT
25 Dec 87

[Text] Vientiane, December 25 (KPL)—Kithong Vongsai, permanent representative of the Lao PDR to the

United Nations, on December 22 met the UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar to inform him about the gravity of the situation on the Lao-Thai border in Na Banoi village, Boten District, the northwestern province of Sayaboury.

"The aggression by the Thai Third Army Region was an act of violation of the Lao sovereignty and territorial integrity, a breach of the UN Charter and international law," emphasized he, reaffirming however, the Lao side is prepared to negotiate and settle the pending problem by peaceful means.

Kithong Vongsai also asked the secretary general to personally intervene and execute his authority as required by the UN Charter in order to put a stop to this act of violation.

Perez de Cuellar expressed his concern over the situation saying he would try to urge both sides to settle the conflict between Laos and Thailand by means of negotiations.

Soviet Planning Delegation Ends Visit

*BK251018 Vientiane KPL in English 0913 GMT
25 Dec 87*

[Text] Vientiane, December 25 (KPL)—Vasilyevich Prusov, collaborator of the USSR State Planning Committee, left here on December 23 after a 9-day visit to the Lao PDR.

While here, the Soviet delegation met with the Lao Authority of the State Planning and signed a memorandum on the economic, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation between the Lao PDR and the USSR for the period ending in 1990.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Khamsai Souphanouvong, first vice-chairman of the State Planning Committee.

Article Hails Capture of SRV Infiltrators

*BK240958 Vientiane PASASON in Lao
1 Dec 87 p 1*

[Article: "Hail the Spirit of Gallant Fighting of and the Excellent Production Scored by the Regional Forces, Militia Units, and People of Saravane and Sekong Provinces"]

[Text] As reported earlier, in July this year an estimated 200 exiled Vietnamese reactionaries, led by Hoang Co Minh and aided and supported by the Thai ultrarightist reactionaries and the international reactionaries, crossed the border from Thailand into southern Laos to enter Vietnam and set up a stronghold there in order to undermine the Vietnamese revolution and the revolutions in the other Indochinese countries. They were

completely wiped out by the local militia units and the regional forces and people of Saravane and Sekong Provinces. Scores of them were killed and captured.

This incident has verified the heroic spirit and decisiveness in carrying out the noble cause of defending and building the socialist country by the cadres, soldiers, and people in southern Laos in general, and in Saravane and Sekong Provinces in particular. This is an exemplary act by the people in these provinces in eliminating the enemies, protecting the lives and property of the people, and defending our territorial integrity.

In the past as well as at present, in terms of practical deeds, when entrusted with certain tasks by the higher levels, all military officers and men, policemen, militia men, cadres, and people in the five southern Lao provinces, Saravane, Sekong, Attapeu, Champassak, and Savannakhet, and in particular Saravane and Sekong Provinces have always successfully carried out initiatives in a gradual, expeditious, firm, timely, and appropriate manner in accordance with the special characteristics of their respective localities.

The national defense and public security maintenance work in these two provinces has been gradually consolidated and improved quantitatively and qualitatively, simultaneously with the production and economic, cultural, and social construction work.

The excellent achievements and great victories scored by the people of the two provinces have profoundly reflected a sense of self-mastery and mastery over their own country of these people, as well as the strategic significance of the two provinces themselves. In the past more than 10 years, no enemy elements who have infiltrated the two provinces to undermine the revolution and the building of the new life by the people have ever been able to escape punishment by the regional forces and people. As a result, the many aspects of the social life in these localities have smoothly and continuously developed.

The recent victories, as well as those of the past, have been attained because of the talented and clear-sighted leadership of the LPRP as well as the profound appreciation by the local cadres, combatants, and people in the two provinces for the national defense and public security maintenance line defined by the party for each period, clear identification of friends and foes, and prompt checking and smashing of all subversive schemes meant to undermine the internal unity among the people and the special solidarity between the Vietnamese and Lao peoples and among the Lao, Vietnamese, and Cambodian peoples. These victories have also been attained due to the fact that the Armed Forces and people of the two provinces have further enhanced the traditions of heroism and undauntedness created by our ancestors, Ong Keo and Kommadam, in southern Laos, and have united with and loved one another enough to deserve the motto: "The Armed Forces and people go hand and

glove." They have resolutely decided together to switch to the new thinking and have appreciated and successfully implemented the spirit of the resolution of the fourth party congress in order to turn the party's all-round national defense and public security maintenance line into the firm and strong network of battlefields of the people's war, to heighten a sense of combat readiness, to fight well and triumphantly, and to smash all the subversive and sinister schemes of the imperialists, international reactionaries, and regional reactionaries completely.

The entire Lao people hail the excellent heroic spirit of and effective production scored by the Armed Forces and people in the southern region in general, and the regional forces, local militia units, and people of Saravane and Sekong Provinces in particular, especially for annihilating the exiled Vietnamese reactionary elements and in taking the offensive on the battlefield to defend the country and to build and develop the economy and society in order to make their provinces a strong bastion for the revolution in southern Laos in particular, and in the entire country in general.

Sali Vongkhamsao Meets Bulgarian Delegation
BK241344 Vientiane KPL in English 0916 GMT
24 Dec 87

[Text] Vientiane, December 24 (KPL)—Sali Vongkhamsao, Politburo member of the LPRP CC, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, and chairman of the State Planning Committee, on December 23 received here a delegation of the Bulgarian-Lao Committee for Economic, Cultural and Technical Cooperation led by its president Ivan Gruev; minister and chairman of the Wood Exploiting and Processing Association.

At the meeting, the Lao vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers was briefed about the results of the talks on the Lao-Bulgarian economic, scientific and technical cooperation. He then thanked the party, government and people of Bulgaria for the consolidation of solidarity, and cooperation, thus meeting the interests of both countries.

Khamphai Boupha Speaks on Foreign Policy
BK251028 Vientiane KPL in English 0917 GMT
25 Dec 87

[Text] Vientiane, December 25 (KPL)—Khamphai Boupha, LPRP CC's member and first deputy-foreign minister, on December 22 popularized the foreign policy of the Lao PDR at a gathering held at the Lao Front for National Construction headquarters.

He pointed out the development of the situation in the country, the region and the world, which he described as beneficial to the revolution in Laos and in other Indo-chinese countries. He also affirmed Lao contributions to the defence of peace and progress for mankind. In this connection, he talked about the result of the Washington

Soviet-U.S. summit meeting which brought about a treaty on the elimination of medium- and shorter-range nuclear missiles. He talked of the prevailing world trend of finding the solutions to the problems, including the Kampuchean issue, by political means. He attributed the broadening of relations and cooperation between Laos and other countries in the region and the world over to the execution of the Lao foreign policy of peace, independence and socialism.

"All this manifests the good-will of the Lao PDR which is gaining world wide sympathy and support," he stressed.

Regarding Thailand, the first deputy-foreign minister made known the hostility and anti-Lao attitude maintained by the Thai ruling circles despite sincere efforts and deeds manifested by the Lao side with a view to improve and normalize the Lao-Thai relations by means of negotiations. To this effect, K. Boupha pointed out the armed conflict in Boten District, Sayaboury Province, triggered by the Thai side since December 15. "We have informed the Thai side of our good will with an intention to solve the problems by peaceful means as was the case in the past," he underlined.

Earlier, Souban Salitthilat, deputy-foreign minister, and Phongsavat Boupha, head of Department No 1 of the Foreign Ministry, also gave lectures on the matter at the party CC's Propaganda and Training Board and the Ministry of Culture.

Kaysone Phomviharn Visits Savannakhet
BK241342 Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT
24 Dec 87

[Text] Vientiane, December 24 (KPL)—Kaysone Phomviharn, general secretary of the LPRP CC, chairman of the Council of Ministers on December 19 visited the central province of Savannakhet where he had talks with notable cadres.

The general secretary hailed the good work done by the provincial party and administrative committees in guiding their implementation of the resolution of the 4th party congress, thus, contributing to the improvement of living standard of people of all ethnicities. He particularly commended the efforts of linking socio-economic development activities with those of national defence.

He, on this occasion, pointed out ways to increase local economic development in which concerned effort should be paid to expanding irrigation, agricultural co-operatives and animal husbandry in order to make the province self sufficient in grains and foodstuff.

He also talked about the need to solve the problem of technicians, productive force and the devision of the force of production.

Nouhak Phoumsavan at District Party Congress
BK241212 Vientiane KPL in English 0921 GMT
24 Dec 87

[Text] Vientiane, December 24 (KPL)—The district party committee of Samtai, northern Houa Phan Province, held its 5th congress yesterday.

Present as honorary guest was Nouhak Phoumsavan, Politburo member of the party CC, first vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers.

The conference was attended by 118 full and 5 alternate party members representing 848 members in the district.

Also present at the congress were Maisouk Saisompheng, member of the party CC, minister of industry, handicraft, head of the guiding committee of the province.

The conference listened a report on the economic and cultural development in the district, the result of which has in the past three years raised the living standard of the local people step by step.

Addressing the gathering, N. Phoumsavan praised the success gained by Samtai population under the guidance of the local party committee.

In addition, he pointed out the general guideline of the party and how to put it into practice.

The participants elected a new executive committee and a number of representatives to attend the congress at the provincial level.

Philippines

Rebels Plan Truce; Disclose U.S. Bases Plan
HK290823 Hong Kong AFP in English 0804
GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] Manila, Dec 29 (AFP)—Communist insurgents in the Philippines will observe a two-day New Year's holiday truce to match a government order for troops to silence their guns during the period, a newspaper reported here Tuesday.

The MANILA BULLETIN said rebel leaders disclosed the plan in a weekend interview in which they also announced the start of an international campaign to remove U.S. military bases from the Philippines.

The insurgents, who killed two U.S. servicemen in October near Clark Air Base, one of the two major U.S. installations here, vowed to kill U.S. defense and intelligence officials in the Philippines, but assured ordinary U.S. citizens that they would be spared, the daily added.

President Corazon Aquino's government had already proclaimed a unilateral 48-hour truce for Christmas and New Year's, and the communist National Democratic Front (NDF) had so far declared a truce for only Christmas.

Most reports so far indicate that the Christmas truce was widely observed, marred only by some isolated incidents.

The BULLETIN said Saturnino Ocampo and Antonio Zumel, who represented the NDF in failed peace talks with the government last year, disclosed that they would declare a 48-hour truce starting at midnight on December 31.

The NDF is a clandestine umbrella group dominated by the Communist Party and its 23,000-strong guerilla force, the New People's Army.

The rebel leaders admitted that the NPA's "Sparrow" urban assassination teams in Manila had erred in conducting a wave of attacks that left more than 100 soldiers, policeman and civilians dead in the capital.

They said the NPA had rectified the error, and that every Sparrow killing from now on would be a "political statement."

Mr Ocampo said "the events of 1987 served fair warning to the Americans not to escalate their support of the Aquino government in terms of materiel, and especially of personnel."

"If these warnings are not heeded," he said, referring to the killings of the American servicemen, "there will be more U.S. targets."

Manila receives an average of 180 million dollars a year in U.S. military and economic aid as rent for Clark and nearby Subic Naval Base, whose future is to be determined in talks starting in 1988.

The BULLETIN said the international rebel campaign against the military bases would be timed to coincide with the talks.

The Aquino government says it is keeping its options open on the future of the bases, whose lease ends in 1991 unless it is renewed as a result of the coming negotiations.

The NDF has an international office at Utrecht, in the Netherlands, and says it receives support from private groups in 25 countries, mostly in Western Europe, including Greece's ruling Pan-Hellenic Socialist Party.

Decision on Military Bases Possible in 1988
HK290641 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0630 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus says there is a possibility that the government will hand down a decision on foreign military bases in the country next year. This despite the president's earlier statement that the country will keep its options open on the issue of the military bases until the bases treaty expires in 1991.

Japan Grants \$350 Million in Loans
HK290241 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0200 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] The Philippines has received a total of \$350 million from Japan. This is part of the payment to be received from two loans granted under the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund [OECF] and the Export-Import Bank of Japan. The loan will increase the Philippines' international reserves and help support the government's national budget. The OECF released \$124.2 million on 23 December and \$75 million yesterday.

Korean Embassy Requests Aid to Free Hostages
HK290441 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0400 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] The Korean Embassy in Manila has once again asked for assistance in obtaining the release of the two Koreans kidnapped last 19 November in Ilocos Norte. According to the embassy, the families of Choe Sung-kwon and Han Pu-su are anxious to have the two released after having received reports that they will soon be released by their captors. The two employees of the Hanil Development Company were connected with a road construction project in Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte, when they were kidnapped by men believed to be NPA rebels.

Sultanate's Heirs To Pursue Sabah Claim
HK281445 Hong Kong AFP in English 1324 GMT
28 Dec 87

[Text] Manila, Dec 28 (AFP)—The heirs of a Philippine sultanate said they had asked permission Monday from President Corazon Aquino to begin talks to settle an ancestral claim to Sabah, in Malaysia.

Datu Tiruna al-Sharif Kiram, one of the heirs to the Moslem Sultanate of Sulu, said the request was made in talks with Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus.

The foreign affairs department declined to comment on the meeting.

The sultanate of Sulu in the southern Philippines leased oil- and timber-rich Sabah to European businessmen in 1881. It later became part of an independent Malaysia, which pays "cession" money to the heirs.

The heirs are now willing to accept payment to drop their proprietary claim.

The Aquino government wants to drop Manila's sovereignty claim in order to improve strained relations with Kuala Lumpur, but has promised to back the heirs' claim.

A bill dropping Manila's sovereignty claim over Sabah on condition that Malaysia settles the heirs' claims and signs a package of treaties with Manila is pending in the Philippine senate.

Datu Kiram told reporters the heirs were unhappy over what he called the "slow process of the negotiations despite the position of the Malaysian government to expedite the settlement".

He said the heirs have already decided the amount they would ask as payment for their proprietary right over Sabah, but would not say how much.

Muslim Guerrilla Leader Killed in Zamboanga
HK290237 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company
in English 2300 GMT 28 Dec 87

[Text] The military yesterday [28 December] reported that the leader of a Muslim urban guerrilla group was shot dead on Christmas Eve and that troops were on full alert throughout Mindanao to prevent rebel attacks in the region's cities. A statement by the Philippine Constabulary said the rebel leader, whose name was not disclosed, was shot dead by police in the heart of Zamboanga City. The statement said the rebel was the leader of a group of MNLF guerrillas believed to have infiltrated Zamboanga and other cities in Mindanao to carry out sabotage operations.

Zamboanga del Norte Mayoral Candidate Killed
HK281447 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
1100 GMT 28 Dec 87

[Text] An administration mayoral candidate was ambushed and killed by four unidentified men armed with armalites in Jose Dalman, Zamboanga del Norte yesterday. This was reported by Southern Command [Solcom] spokesman Colonel Anthony Elias. The Solcom identified the victim as Sergio Biolanco, 65 years old, and a mayoral candidate of the leading coalition in Jose Dalman. Biolanco died on the spot due to numerous wounds. According to preliminary investigation, Biolanco was campaigning in Barangay Tamil aboard a jeepney when he was ambushed and sprayed with bullets.

PC-INP To Guard Metro Manila Precincts

*HK290451 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0400 GMT 29 Dec 87*

[Text] Some 10,000 members of the PC-INP will be fielded in Metro Manila to guard polling places during the 18 January election. Each precinct will have two officers from the INP, and possibly more police personnel in areas where they are required. Mobile cars will be fielded to support security details, and contingency forces will be set up in district police stations to help the special action groups being set up by Comelec [Commission on Elections]. These measures were approved recently during a command conference attended by officials of the Comelec, Capital Command, and police in Metro Manila.

Polls in Sulu, Tawi-Tawi Moved to February

*HK290219 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company
in English 2300 GMT 28 Dec 87*

[Text] The Commission on Elections [Comelec] yesterday [28 December] postponed the 18 January local elections in Sulu and Tawi-Tawi, saying the peace and order situation in the two provinces is not conducive to the holding of peaceful, fair, orderly, honest, and credible polls as originally scheduled.

In an en banc resolution, the Comelec reset the local polls in Tawi-Tawi to 8 February 1988; and in Sulu, to 15 February. The Comelec placed both provinces under its control and directed the Armed Forces chief of staff to place immediately at the disposal of the poll body the military personnel and resources that may be needed to ensure peaceful and orderly elections in the two provinces in accordance with the new schedule.

The Comelec's unprecedented action was based on the report of its special committee which conducted a public hearing on the request of the military to postpone the elections in those two provinces to avoid senseless loss of lives and to prevent massive cheating by the candidates and their supporters.

Cordillera Rebel Group Plans To Oust Leader

*HK290227 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog
0100 GMT 29 Dec 87*

[Text] A top official in Northern Luzon has disclosed that a group of the Cordillera People's Liberation Army [CPLA] plans to oust Conrado Balweg as head of the organization. This was confirmed yesterday by Northern Luzon Command chief Brigadier General Felix Brunner, who said that a group under Ka [comrade] Sulong has expressed exasperation over Balweg's leadership and his constant emotional outbursts. Ka Sulong has accused Balweg and his wife of mishandling government funds marked for the CPLA. Brunner says Ka Sulong's group charges Balweg with weak and ineffective leadership as well as mismanaging finances.

KMU Admits Suffering Organizational Setbacks

*HK281235 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER in English 28 Dec 87 pp 1, 10*

[By Glenda M. Gloria]

[Text] The 700,000-strong Kilusang Mayo Uno [KMU] has admitted that it suffered an organizational setback this year because of the Aquino administration's apparent resolve to crush the left-leaning union.

Crispin Beltran, KMU chairman, said the militant union's organizational strength may have weakened by an estimated 25 percent but that this was basically due to factors beyond its control.

Beltran attributed the organizational setback to the government's "covert and overt operations" against the labor movement and its apparently strong belief that KMU was created only as a major destabilizer of the status quo.

For instance, Beltran said, there is a strong anti-KMU sentiment among businessmen who have, time and again, proposed the disbandment of the "communist KMU."

Beltran also cited the efforts by vigilante groups in the South to bust unions affiliated with the KMU. More than 30 KMU officials and members have been "salvaged" (summarily executed) in 1987 alone, Beltran said.

"Walang tigid na winawasak nila ang makinarya ng militanteng unyonismo dito (They are relentlessly crushing militant unionism here)," Beltran said.

"Mayroong 25 porsiyentong paghupa ng organisasyon, lalo na Yung fighting capability" ["There has been a 25-percent setback in the organization, especially in the fighting capability"], he added, citing instances when unions chose the "tactical position" not to go an all-out fight.

Beltran also said there were tremendous economic pressures on KMU workers this year.

Beltran sidestepped a question on whether or not there was a marked decrease in the membership of KMU affiliates. He said they were still gathering reports from the provinces.

He also warned that a full-blown dispute is about to engulf the Atlas Mining Corp. in Cebu because of the creation of vigilante groups to discredit the KMU in the area.

KMU organizers at Atlas, including union leaders have reportedly temporarily left the factory site after they have found out that the vigilantes have put a price—as much as P5,000 each—on their head. Atlas, which employs 9,000 workers is one of the labor group's strongholds.

The anti-KMU hysteria was bolstered by President Aquino's Oct. 20 speech before top businessmen. She vowed not to let an "unruly minority" use the labor front as vehicle to destabilize her administration, Beltran said.

However, he claimed that the setback is "temporary" as he gave out a list of consolidating activities early next year by the labor movement as well as other mass organizations to which it belongs.

KMU's firebrand is also the newly-elected president of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) [new nationalist alliance].

He cited the three-month old strike at Nestle Phils. Inc.—which ended this month with the exhausted strikers voluntarily returning to work—as one major setback from which to draw significant lessons in trade unionism.

"Yun ay masakit isipin pero realidad' yan," ["That was difficult to admit, but it is the truth"] Beltran said of the Nestle dispute.

Other labor organizers noted that while KMU remains the strongest labor group, it has to somehow learn to bend to moderate views.

It also has to consider the fact that the whole leftist movement, indeed, underwent a year of "learning" and "reviewing" of tactics, he added.

But Beltran recalled it was KMU which initiated tactical alliances between the Labor Advisory and Consultative Council to which it belongs and its arch-rival, the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines.

Aquino Answers Listeners' Questions

HK280455 [Editorial Report] Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog at 1300 GMT on 27 December carries a 45-minute live program entitled "Magtanong sa Pangulo" ["Ask the President"], in which President Corazon Aquino answers listeners' questions, some of them phoned in and others relayed by a moderator. [slantlines denote passages in English]

The moderator says there have been several callers asking the president why graft and corruption are still rampant in her government when these vices should have disappeared with Marcos. Father William Miller, a foreign priest, poses this question to her. Mrs Aquino replies: "I think we are all aware that graft and corruption did not just appear under my administration. These

vices have existed for a long time. The Aquino government is actually doing something about them. I have tasked each cabinet member to be responsible for his and her own departments, and in each department there is an action officer principally tasked with overseeing its activities with regard to the problems of graft and corruption. During another one of my radio programs, this question was also asked, and in answer I have said that in the airport, the Department of Justice has set up an office so that anybody coming into the country and who is subjected to any kind of anomaly will be able to report it right away."

The president goes on to say that all officials in sensitive government positions have been made to wear ID tags so that complaints against them can be promptly dealt with. She asks for citizens to continue reporting to the government any wrongdoings by people working in the government.

A Zamboanga resident points out that Mrs Aquino had vowed to make agricultural development the centerpiece of her government program. He says: "We do not see any positive steps your administration has taken on this,"/ pointing out that no action has been taken on requests to lower fertilizer and pesticide prices for needy farmers. The president replies: "Certainly this government has done a lot of things to improve the situation of the farmers, and in particular I would like to refer to the fact that we have abolished the monopolies, especially in sugar and copra. And we have also removed export taxes on all agricultural products, and certainly this has helped the farmers. We have also taken into consideration the matter of constructing more farm-to-market roads because we realize that this is one of the best ways we can help the farmer so he will be able to bring his crops to the market in as quick a manner as possible.

"On the matter of the reduction of costs for fertilizers and pesticides, I think you will have to admit that under my administration the cost of fertilizer has definitely gone down and, as I earlier stated, if prices have gone up a little from the time that I took office—but still very much lower than under the Marcos administration—it is because of the price of fertilizer abroad. Since we have to import fertilizer, naturally the price will also be affected by the world market price. We do not control the price of fertilizer in the world market."

The moderator says several callers are asking about the reorganization within the government. A caller asks an indistinct question.

The president says each government department is trying to weed out incompetence and has a screening board for new applicants. She says the main aim of the reorganization is to bring about greater efficiency in government services and also to address the graft and corruption problem.

A caller from Cotabato says there are reports that some government officials are communists. The president gives assurances that there are none.

A caller compares the situation in the country to that in Vietnam some years ago. He asks why the government does not ask for help from the United States. Mrs Aquino says: "As you know, we are far from Vietnam. This problem we face /is an internal problem, this is a Filipino problem. And we have sufficient forces and sufficient might to address this problem./ We do not need to ask for help from the Americans."

Writer Deedee Siyangco of the MANILA BULLETIN points out that Mrs Aquino's administration has been subjected to more crises than any other administration. She asks how the president copes, and also asks what role she would like the media to play during such crises. The president says she has shown in the past how she has stood up during crises and restates her philosophy, which is: "I work with all my might, I pray with all my heart, and the rest I leave to God." / As for the media's role, she says: "What I am asking for is that, first of all, media should try not to instill fear. In other words, it must try to make people be as calm as possible, because undue excitement will not get us anywhere. At the same time, when there is an actual confrontation going on, the best thing is for people to just stay in their homes and see to the safety of their families. However, if I deem there is a need for people power, then I would hope that if I issue an appeal, that the people will come out."/

A Quezon City resident says the president has expressed her support for vigilante groups. Yet after the NDF issued a threat against these groups, she announced that the vigilantes should not be armed and should be controlled by the military. She says she feels these groups will be ineffective if their present organization is not maintained and supported. The president replies that she has said she supports the Alsa Masa in Davao because the residents there say they need such groups and have agreed that they should fall under the control of the local government and the military. She points out that arming any vigilante groups cannot just be done haphazardly. She says responsible leaders should be identified who can be held accountable for their actions. She says: / "We cannot just issue arms to all and sundry. What is needed is firstly to abide by the guidelines issued by the Local Governments and National Defense Departments."/

In reply to a caller asking what the government plans to do regarding autonomy for Mindanao, the president says peace negotiator Alfredo Bengson is in charge of holding dialogues with all sectors of society in Mindanao to sound out the people's views on the issue of autonomy. She gives assurances that the government will act in the best interests of all concerned.

President Aquino also answers listeners' questions about free secondary education, the repair of provincial roads, banning illegal labor recruiters and sidewalk vendors, labor-management problems, measures to maintain copra prices, and continuing relief work in Bicol. She also denies a caller's charge that budget funds have been diverted to benefit military enlisted men.

Ramos Urges Police, Firemen Pay Hike
HK290807 Manila Radio Veritas in Tagalog
0700 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] The military yesterday asked the Senate and Congress to approve House Bill No 2585, which increases the salary of police and firemen as of 1 December 1987. The request was made by General Fidel Ramos, Armed Forces chief of staff, and Lieutenant General Renato de Villa, vice chief of staff, in separate letters to Senate President Jovito Salonga and Speaker Ramon Mitra. Both requests urged approval of the pending house bill, that is marked as an urgent national necessity.

Ramos Warns Against New Year Weapons Firing
HK281331 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English
27 Dec 87 pp 1, 5

[Text] Gen. Fidel V. Ramos, Armed Forces chief of staff, warned all military and police personnel yesterday against indiscriminate firing of firearms to celebrate the new year.

Ramos said violators will be dealt with accordingly during a press conference held in Camp Aguinaldo.

The chief of staff noted that in the past soldiers and policemen fired their guns to celebrate the new year.

"Such behavior of military and police personnel would adversely affect the good image of the AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] and INP," Ramos said.

He said indiscriminate firing of firearms could cause serious injuries and even death.

Ramos ordered all military commanders to take appropriate action to control if not eliminate totally the indiscriminate firing of firearms by military personnel.

AFP provost marshal and military police units will conduct periodic patrols on New year's Eve to various subdivisions and communities where a large number of military personnel live to enforce the ban.

He also ordered an on-the-spot inspection of firearms and ammunition issued to military personnel to determine those firing their guns during the new Year celebration. (PNA)

Retirement, Other Military Problems Discussed
HK281407 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English
27 Dec 87 p 11

[By Nick T. Enciso]

[Text] The Armed Forces seem to be in a dilemma on what to do with many of its present top officers. Will they be retired so that a new set of officers can take their posts? What to do with the young generals who want to assume major commands?

Military observers think that these new officers are not yet fully honed for their jobs, that they still lack experience to lead major commands. They may be academically prepared, some of them having attended foreign military schools, but they have to be more properly trained in the field, including actual combat.

This situation has been brought about by the new Constitution which mandates that military officers be retired at a certain length of service and that their tour of duty cannot be extended.

The projected separation of the police and the Constabulary from the military has exacerbated the problems of the military service—those in the Constabulary should decide whether they will join the military service or be retained as police officers.

It is commonly perceived that the plan to separate the integrated national police if it takes effect will create a vacuum in the INP if trained PC officers now assigned with the INP decide to leave the police organization.

It is said that at present only Brig. Gen. Alfredo Lim of the Metro Manila Western Police District qualifies fully for such a major INP command without support from the various Constabulary Commands.

While the new law approved a 60 percent increase in the salary and allowances of the military with the generals getting much more, it is also observed that the soldiers still need more encouragement to improve their performance.

The loyalty to the Aquino government of some Armed Forces members is still doubtful despite the capture of rebel leader Col. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan.

The military as a whole seethes with grievances and discontent, yet it is expected to do miracles against anti-government forces, mainly the communist New People's Army (NPA). The prevailing sentiment among the rank and file of the military is that taking everything equal, including educational qualifications, those officers who have spent years in combat fighting the NPAs and Mindanao insurgents, must be given priority to run major commands. "Swivel chair generals" have to go, including those who get promoted because of their closeness to the powers-that-be.

There is nothing that can demoralize an idealistic young military officer more than seeing a promotion made on the basis solely of "who they know and not what they know."

The extended amnesty offered to the guerrillas in the hope of winning them back to the fold of the law has caused unhappiness among those in the military service.

In Mindanao, the interference of a neophyte politician in contacting the Moro National Liberation Forces (MNLF) leadership giving the rebels a chance to enhance their prestige because of world-wide publicity, has contributed to the general demoralization of the government fighting men in the South, observers said.

They added that despite so much foreign aid received by the government, the troops in the field still lack enough uniforms and equipment. Patrols sent out are crammed into a single vehicle exposing them to ambush.

Government To Pursue New Monetary Policy

[MALAYA 27 Dec]
HK281357 Quezon City MALAYA in English
27 Dec 87 p 9

[Text] Central Bank [CB] Governor Jose Fernandez Jr said the government will pursue a "more prudent" monetary policy to prevent heating up inflationary pressures brought about by increased liquidity in the financial system associated with the country's resurgent economic recovery.

Fernandez said the improvement in the overall economic activity this year is beginning to show over in what he termed "normal areas" constituting increased private sector credits, capital equipment importations and higher interest rates.

The net domestic credit by the private sector has reached close to P20 billion as of November, fueled by the increased demand for credit by the business sector and consumers. But the growth is considered too much consumer-led, instead of the more desirable investment-led expansion.

Moreover, lending rates are starting to go up, reaching a high of 22 percent in the past ten weeks without a corresponding hike in savings rates now ranging from four to five per cent.

Fernandez also noted a surge in imports to \$4.652 billion from January to September although this is "not worrisome" since the bulk are in the form of capital goods and raw materials instead of luxury and consumer items.

Given these developments, he said the CB will adopt an expansionary monetary policy although not to the extent of rekindling high inflation. The current year-on-year inflation rate of 6.3 percent is still manageable, he said.

He said the CB "will face the delicate task of establishing appropriate exchange rate, interest rate and credit policies in a setting that is likely to require some expansion in private domestic credit."

Given developments in and volatility of world-wide financial markets that became more pronounced in the second quarter, he said the CB's policy may have to shift "to prudence from accommodation."

Increased international rates would mean increased payments on foreign loans which next year would eat up 16 per cent of the total government budget.

Government Spokesman Views 1988 Prospects
BK280945 Manila PNA in English 0849 GMT
28 Dec 87

[Text] Manila, Dec. 28 (PNA-OANA)—The prospects for the Philippine Government in the coming year are bright because of an improving economy and an armed forces consolidated in support of the leadership of President Aquino, presidential spokesman Teodoro Benigno said on Monday.

Benigno also told reporters that contrary to the perception of many analysts, the Aquino government was not moving to the right of the political spectrum.

"I will simply say that there were shifts from the balance of power," he explained. "The balance of power requires that there be cordial and effective institutional relations between the office of the president and the military, with her government acting as spiritual, moral and political force in the country but meeting the shields and the specter that was furnished by the military."

Benigno also said the indicators of economic growth are "very encouraging." The economy posted a 5.5 percent gross national product growth in 1987, he said. This growth rate could reach 5.8 percent in 1988, Benigno added.

On the whole, he said, despite the "trials and the tribulations of the Aquino government, the country is moving forward."

With regard to the military, Benigno said that even before the Aug. 28 aborted coup, the Armed Forces was already supportive of the president.

He said that relations between the executive and the military had improved "compared to what it was before when she (the president) hardly had any support from the military. [quotation marks as received]"

At the outset of Mrs. Aquino's term, Benigno said, "military support was a question mark because of then Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile and the Reform the Armed Forces Movement-RAM boys." RAM members have been alleged to be ringleaders of two aborted coups in November 1986.

"Now I think the government is on top of the insurgency problem," Benigno concluded, "because the economy is improving and military support for President Aquino is even more consolidated."

Minister Proposes 'Guided Democracy' System
HK280241 Hong Kong AFP in English 0233 GMT
28 Dec 87

[Text] Manila, Dec 28 (AFP)—A Philippine cabinet member Monday proposed a Singapore-style "guided democracy" for his country to solve its political and economic problems.

Transportation and Communication Secretary Rainiero Reyes, stressing that he was giving a personal view, said in a radio talk show that "our discipline is too lax...in our democracy, there is too much talk and little action."

"What we need here is a Lee Kuan Yew," he added over radio station DZRH.

Mr. Reyes, former president of a large computer company here, had served as the official escort of Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew during the Association of Southeast Asian Nations summit in Manila two weeks ago.

"I learned a lot from him. He was really a very straight person, and I hope we have many people like him in the Philippines to help solve our problems."

Many non-politicians in government like Mr. Reyes have expressed impatience over the country's U.S.-style democracy, saying firmer rule is needed to boost the economy, crush the communist insurgency and end extreme right-wing threats.

President Corazon Aquino has been criticized by rightists for allegedly coddling communists, and by the left for allegedly "veering to the right" by adopting a hardline stance on the 19-year-old insurgency.

Thailand

Reportage on Border Dispute With Laos

Foreign Minister Comments
BK291021 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
0530 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] Foreign Minister Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawet-sila said during an interview at Government House before attending the cabinet meeting this morning that,

in reply to Thailand's contact through the Thai Embassy in Vientiane for talks to be held between Thailand and Laos to solve the border dispute at Ban Romklao in Phitsanulok province, Laos has informed Thailand that the meeting can be held either in Thailand or Laos.

He said that Thailand asked Laos to appoint an appropriate person as leader of the Lao delegation since in previous talks the head of the Lao delegation had verbally attacked and insulted Thailand. However, Laos indicated to Thailand that it reserved its right to appoint the head of its delegation. The Foreign Ministry informed Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office Arun Phanuphong, who is head of the Thai delegation, of the Lao response.

The foreign minister reiterated that Ban Romklao is in Thai territory. The proof is on the map. He said the date for a meeting will first have to be agreed upon with Laos. Concerning the Lao ambassador's approach through another official channel rather than the Foreign Ministry, the foreign minister said the Lao ambassador's behavior was aimed at creating an internal problem for Thailand. A diplomat, he said, should not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, but should respect diplomatic norms and etiquette.

Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila said that, on the occasion of the New Year 1988, the Foreign Ministry pledges to perform its duties in accordance with the wishes of the Thai people based on the interests of the country.

Call for Lao Withdrawal

*BK290045 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
29 Dec 87 p 1*

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry yesterday called on Laos to withdraw its troops from Thailand to clear the way for a third round of talks aimed at improving relations.

At a press conference yesterday, the ministry distributed copies of three maps, including one made by Soviet experts, showing that a border hill being held by Pathet Lao soldiers is in Thai territory.

Ministry spokesman Sarot Chawanawirat said Laos should withdraw its troops because they are on Thai soil and have been surrounded by Thai forces.

Withdrawal of all Laotian troops from border Hill 1370 in Chat Trakan district of Phitsanulok province, would "pave the way for a third round of negotiations to improve relations between the two countries," Mr Sarot said.

He also distributed copies of a Thai-French border map and an aerial map made by the Army Survey Department to support the Thai claim.

Mr Sarot said the Thai embassy in Vientiane has passed on Bangkok's proposal for a third round of talks to the Laotian Foreign Ministry.

He said the negotiations could be held in a third country to prevent the two countries from using the meeting for propaganda purposes.

The two previous rounds of talks brought no progress, the spokesman said, adding that a clear agenda should be set for the new talks because Laos had added other issues at previous negotiations.

The two sides should also decide beforehand which topics of discussion would be revealed to the mass media, he said.

"We don't want the talks to lead to other problems or be used for propaganda purposes," Sarot said.

Laos also says it wants talks, but a statement from its Foreign Ministry on Sunday insisted the disputed area is in Sayaboury province in western Laos. It cited a 1907 French-Thai treaty to back its claim. [passage omitted]

Briefing on Border Situation

*BK291030 Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai
0530 GMT 29 Dec 87*

[Text] Defense Minister Air Chief Marshal Phaniang Kantarat told reporters at Government House this morning that Lao soldiers are still holding on in the border area of Ban Romklao in Chat Trakan District, Phitsanulok Province. However, they are controlling only one hill. He said the number of Lao soldiers there is not known. He hoped, however, that Lao troops would pull out from the area. The Thai military does not want to fight, as this would only cause suffering to Laos. He said that the disputed area is in Thai territory. He welcomed talks to be held in order to settle the problem.

Laos Said Threatening Attack

*BK290125 Bangkok THE NATION in English
29 Dec 87 pp 1, 3*

[Text] Loei—Laos has threatened to attack a new border village here as local officials strictly blocked strategic goods from entering the border area.

The officials fear that the goods, such as rice, medicine and dry cells, would be smuggled to Lao forces fighting Thai troops in adjoining Phitsanulok.

Field military sources said Lao troops have launched a propaganda campaign, threatening to attack Nakha Village in Dan Sai District of the northeastern province.

Laotian field military commands on Phu Wieng and Phu Kosng Doen mountains over the weekend dispatched about 200 troops to reinforce a position opposite Nakha, they said.

Thai border troops were put on alert following the Laotian reinforcement, said the sources.

They said Lao forces might be seeking to open supply routes to the Lao intruders, currently entrenched on strategic hills on the ill-defined border area in Chat Trakan District of Phitsanulok.

Senior army officers said last week that Thai air strikes and ground assaults have cut off the supply routes from Laos to Hill 1428.

They said six Thais have been killed and about 30 wounded in the flush-out operations that started at the end of October.

About 1,000 troops have established positions on Hills 1428 and 1370 in Phu Soi Dao mountain of Chat Trakan.

The sources said Thai troops from the Thai troops from the Third Army Region have captured several outposts from the intruders who still hold four target areas on Hill 1428.

They said the Thais have laid siege to the four Lao outposts, but the Laotians were gaining the advantage from their higher positions against Thai ground troops.

Fighting has been continuing for weeks and some stray artillery shells have landed in Rom Klao village near Phu Soi Dao. But no civilian casualties were reported.

Laos has laid claim to Rom Klao in Chat Trakan and other villages in adjacent Na Haew District of Loei.

Loei governor Chiwin Suthisuwan yesterday ordered local officials to strictly prohibit strategic goods from being transported into Thai-Lao border areas, especially in Tha Li District.

The ban followed reports that Thai merchants have been smuggling goods across the border into Laos.

The goods were allegedly sent to support Lao forces fighting Thai troops in the disputed border area.

NATION Comments

BK290211 Bangkok *THE NATION* in English
29 Dec 87 p 4

[Kawi Chongkitthawon commentary: "It's Time for the Thai-Lao Normalization Talks To Resume"]

[Text] The Foreign Ministry yesterday moved swiftly to respond to the Laotian government's overture for bilateral talks by announcing a new format for future meetings between officials of the two countries.

In a surprise move, ministry spokesman Saroj Chawawat said in a press conference yesterday that Bangkok is ready to resume talks with Vientiane if Vientiane is able to meet the new criteria which are aimed at ascertaining that the next round of Thai-Lao talks will be productive.

First, both countries should "forget" or set aside the previous two rounds of high-level talks, the spokesman said.

The Foreign Ministry admitted that the first round of talks in Vientiane last November was somewhat successful because both sides could discuss border problems and pave the way for the second round in Bangkok last March.

The Bangkok talks were a sham, however, because the meeting was shortened. Worse, it left bitterness in the Thai-Lao relations. The Foreign Ministry was very upset with the manner of the Laotian chief of delegation, Vice Foreign Minister Souban Salitthilat, who held a press conference on the first day of the meeting to condemn "the Thai people, and government," and to accuse Thailand and the US of "colluding" to destabilize Laos. He also blamed Thailand and the US for a bombing incident in Vientiane in early March.

Since then, Thai-Lao relations have been cooling off even though Vientiane has continued to urge Bangkok to hold the third round of talks in the Laotian capital, as agreed during the second round of talks. Foreign Minister Sitthi Sawetsila said from time to time that Bangkok would only send a delegation to Vientiane if the Laotian side is sincere and if it does not intend to use the Thai-Lao talks as a propaganda forum to condemn Thailand and its allies.

Bangkok thought Souban's behaviour during the second round of talks was aimed at boosting his status at home and to show his "patriotism."

The new guidelines, which are common diplomatic practice elsewhere, are specific in that for the first time Bangkok demands that Vientiane agrees beforehand to a set of agenda, objectives of the talks, and lists of delegates from both sides.

Bangkok has good reasons for the demands. During the March meeting, Vientiane did not supply Bangkok with a list of delegates until the last minute. The Foreign Ministry also complained that the composition of the Laotian team was not aimed at serious negotiations to solve the border problems because the delegates were mainly concerned with security and political affairs.

Sarot said if Vientiane agrees to the guidelines, both sides can immediately work out the rules of conduct in preparation for the next round of talks.

According to Foreign Ministry officials, such specific demands are crucial to pre-empt the Laotian delegates from sidestepping the bilateral talks and bringing in other problems unrelated to the issues under discussion.

These demands were laid down by the Foreign Ministry after the collapse of the second round of talks. "We really want to hold substantial talks with them. The guidelines will assure that the talks will be of substance. They are not conditions or obstacles to bilateral talks," Sarot said.

The chief Thai delegate, PM's [Prime Minister's] Office Minister Arun Phanuphong, had expressed disappointment with Souban's undiplomatic conduct during the Bangkok talks. When Sitthi visited the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in May, he informed his Soviet counterpart of the Laotian behaviour.

"Common sense dictates what a host country should do and how a visiting delegation should behave," Arun told reporters at the end of the Bangkok meeting, referring to Souban's press conference.

Under the guidelines, Thailand proposed that both countries begin a new meeting either in Bangkok or Vientiane or in a third country. Sarot said that the meeting can be held in a country acceptable to both sides in order to "avoid slanderous allegations."

The Foreign Ministry's move came a few days after Laotian Ambassador Kamphan Simmalavong met with Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut urging him to expedite a proposed visit of Laotian Acting-President Phoumi Vongvichit to Thailand. Phoumi has expressed the desire to visit Thailand to congratulate HM [His Majesty] the King on his 60th anniversary. The ministry viewed Phoumi's visit as a goodwill gesture that could improve the strained Thai-Lao relations.

Kamphan's meeting with Chawalit drew strong reaction from Sitthi. The minister criticized the Laotian ambassador saying that his approach was inappropriate and it breached diplomatic protocol. It was not the first time that Sitthi expressed such a strong opinion against Kamphan. A few weeks after the dispute over three villages in Uttaradit Province blew up in 1985, Kamphan called a press conference at the Laotian Embassy and severely condemned Thailand and the US.

The Foreign Ministry wants to show that it is always on top of the situation. Thus, it quickly responded to the latest Laotian overture for normalization talks.

Chawalit's bold but calculated comments on key foreign policy issues such as the Kampuchean conflict and the Thai-Lao relations have upset the ministry. "His comments were either vague or odd,"—to use the words of a senior foreign ministry official.

But an ASEAN diplomat pointed out that the ministry's guidelines are a peace offensive to respond to the call by UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to end the border conflict peacefully after Laos lodged a letter of protest to the UN recently. Laos urged de Cuellar to intervene personally.

If Vientiane agrees to the proposed guidelines, the next round of talks will be at a higher level. It is likely that Arun will continue to represent the Thai side; thus his Laotian counterpart should also be a full minister, possibly Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut.

Thailand and Laos are close neighbours and often call themselves "blood brothers." This euphemism has been over-used, for it does not reflect the reality of strained relations. When two blood brothers decide to use arms on each other, it is something very serious.

It is about time that both countries agree to hold talks to settle bilateral problems in civilized and brotherly manner. After all, only the two governments are at odds. Peoples of the two countries still think of one another as "blood brothers."

More Boat People Land With Smugglers Aid
BK290059 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English
29 Dec 87 p 3

[Text] An increasing number of Vietnamese boat people are landing with the help of smugglers in Khlong Yai district of Trat province, Interior Minister Prachuab Suntharangkun said yesterday.

Gen Prachuab said the authorities would restrict the entry of Vietnamese boat people landing in the eastern province with the help of the smugglers, who allegedly hold both Thai and Khmer nationality.

Gen Prachuab, visiting the Phanat Nikom refugee holding centre in Chon Buri province yesterday, was briefed by provincial officials about the problem.

He threatened to transfer officials who are unable to stem the flow of boat people, and replace them with more efficient ones.

Also at the briefing was Maj Thammanit Pitanirabut, deputy commissioner of Provincial Police Zone 2, which includes Khlong Yai district.

Phanat Nikom houses 102,744 Indochinese refugees, including 11,018 Vietnamese boat people.

Some 500 Vietnamese boat people reportedly arrive at Phanat Nikom each month, but only 300 of them eventually resettle in third countries. About 1,100 boat people arrived at the centre last month, the most in the past six months.

Gen Prachuap said he would seek talks with UNHCR officials about the resettlement of the boat people because Thailand could not bear the burden alone.

Later, during talks with Deputy Interior Permanent Secretary Somphon Klinphongsa and Chon Buri Governor Suep Rotprasoe, he accused resettlement countries of accepting refugees only if it was in their interests, instead of on a humanitarian basis.

He criticised the countries for the decreasing number of refugees being accepted for resettlement.

Gen Prachuap said that over 8,000 Indochinese have been rejected for resettlement by third countries in Phanat Nikom.

He urged the officials to work with the UNHCR and U.S. officials to find ways to send these refugees to third countries as soon as possible.

He said Thailand cannot afford to allow the Vietnamese boat people to stay here permanently.

Asked what the ministry would do if third countries refuse to accept the refugees for resettlement, Governor Suep said: "That's the problem. We are waiting for instructions from the Government."

A marine police officer said the boat people are leaving Vietnam by land and passing through Kampuchea to Kong Island, where they board fishing boats provided by the smugglers and sail for Khlong Yai district.

The boat people have told Thai officials that they bribed Vietnamese or Kampuchean authorities they met along the way.

Besides Khlong Yai, Gen Prachuap ordered provincial authorities and police to be on the lookout for Vietnamese boat people landing with the help of smugglers in Laem Ngop and Muang districts.

Vietnam

Excerpts From Vo Van Kiet Economic Report
BK280826 Hanoi VNA in English 0723 GMT
28 Dec 87

["Excerpts" from Vo Van Kiet, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Commission, report on the implementation of the State Plan in 1987, the orientations and tasks of the Five-Year Plan (1986-90), and the task of the State Plan in 1988 at the 2d Session of the 8th National Assembly]

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 24 [date as received]—Vo Van Kiet, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Commission, delivered a report on the implementation of the State Plan in 1987,

the orientations and tasks of the Five Year Plan (1986-1990), and the task of the State Plan in 1988, at the 2nd Session of the 8th National Assembly which opened here on Dec. 23.

Following are excerpts:

Agriculture has over the last two years developed slowly and in an unstable manner. Agricultural output in 1986 remained at the same level as in 1985, and fell by two percent in 1987, or an annual decrease of 0.7 percent in the last two years. Food production in 1985, 1986 and 1987 averaged 18 million tons while the population increased by more than one million each year, thus making rice dividend per head fall from 304 kilos in 1985 to 280 kilos in 1987. Materials for the farm products processing industry fell below target and even decreased as in the case of sugarcane and tobacco.

Objectively there were many natural calamities in two consecutive years, but the subjective factors were the main reasons: outmoded planning, inadequate investment particularly in foodgrain production, for production and too long maintenance of the subsidies-based mechanism of management.

In heavy industry, the absence of intensive and comprehensive investment has led to largely under-capacity production. The large potentials in consumer goods production, especially in the private and household sectors, have not been used efficiently. The subsidies-based system has checked the dynamism of the grass-roots units including those in the state and collective sectors. There have been inadequate investments in major raw material producing areas. Many irrationalities remain in the purchasing prices of raw materials.

In the domain of export and external economic relations, there has been noticeable progress in the cooperation in production with the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, thus creating favourable conditions for Vietnam actively to take part in the international division of labour.

Our export value in the past two years has increased by 10.3 percent annually. However, the export quota for several items, especially to the socialist countries remained low and the implementation of the programmes of production cooperation with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries still leaves much to be desired. The remittances from overseas Vietnamese, tourism and other foreign currency earning services fell below expectation.

One step further has been taken to restructure capital construction, focusing on major projects, such as the Hoa Binh and Tri An hydro-electric power plants, the oil and gas joint venture in Vung Tau, the Thach Nham irrigation project and the Lao Cai apatite plant etc.

Many localities and branches have also reordered the priorities in investment with greater attention to agriculture.

In the past years, the population growth rate in our country has remained high (above 2 percent), leading to a continual decrease in food production per capita. The Family Planning Programme has not received close leadership at all levels. Employment pressure is rising which causes social instability. The policy to resettle part of the population in overpopulated areas [as received] in unreclaimed regions has not received adequate guidance. The implementation of the program to cut down the administrative staff at all levels and services has been too slow.

The Health Service has made remarkable efforts in caring for the health of the population through diverse ways of combining traditional with modern medicine and the at-home treatment service. However, anti-epidemic activities remain weak. Some infectious diseases show a tendency to increase, especially malaria in some mountainous provinces.

We are embarking on the 1988 Plan with little improvement in material conditions. However, new factors have emerged that will help us overcome difficulties and implement our tasks.

In the three years from 1988 to 1990, we have to achieve an important advance in stabilizing the socio-economic situation and creating favourable conditions for socio-economic development in the following years.

To this end, we have to issue policies to release all productive potential. We must strongly develop commodity production in all economic sectors, first, by concentrating on the three major economic programmes, the food programme in particular; make a complete change-over to the system of socialist self-management and self-financing; increase the efficiency of economic operations and renovate our organizations and cadres.

The Socio-Economic Plan in the three years ahead has to meet the following demands:

First, it must meet the fundamental needs in food, consumer-goods and other urgent necessities in the life of the working people; quickly increase the value of exports, make good on our international commitments, broaden economic relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries and other countries; and at the same time, continue to develop a number of key heavy industries, transport and communications in serving the above tasks. Second, it has to shift economic activities strongly to socialist self-management and self-financing, raise production efficiency, rationally distribute the national income, gradually stabilize the situation in the

distribution and circulation work and step by step accumulate capital from inside the national economy, improve the life of the working people and reduce inflation to the lowest possible level.

Third, the plan must raise the quality and efficiency of the state-run and collective economic sectors, develop all capacities of the other economic sectors, reorganize and manage well the economy, increase market management and continue socialist transformation of private traders.

Fourth, it must create more jobs, make important progress in stabilizing social life, ensure security and social order, combat negative phenomena, build a healthy and civilised life and social equity.

Fifth, it must meet the requirements of national defence and security.

Sixth, it has to prepare for the socio-economic development programmes in 1991-1995,

In 1988, the "hinge" year of the five-year plan, in addition to the general tasks for the 1988-90 period, we have to:

—Solve a number of urgent problems in education, public health and culture.

—Rearrange the apparatus of the party, the state and mass organizations from the centre to the districts, and reduce the managerial and administrative staff.

— Reassign cadres at key positions, at all levels and all organizations.

—Broaden socialist democracy and strengthen socialist legislation.

One of the biggest difficulties in carrying out the above programmes is the shortage of capital. Along with the release of all potentials in all economic sectors, we shall draw capital from foreign countries both socialist and non-socialist and also modern technologies and managerial skills. After the National Assembly adopts the Law on Investments of Foreign Countries, it is necessary to promulgate at once the relevant legal documents and create favourable conditions for the implementation of this law.

The overall targets for the 1986-1990 period are:

—Seven percent increase of the GNP and of the national income per year.

—Total food output to be increased by more than one million tons per year on average; 200,000 more hectares will be put under industrial cultivation; industrial production will be increased by 11 percent each year, 13-15 percent for the non-capital goods.

—The export value will increase by 70 percent over that in the 1981-85 period.

—The important projects under construction will be completed; the electric output will increase by 910 mw; coal output by 1.5 million tons; a considerable amount of oil and gas will be extracted.

—The useful capacity of machinery will be raised from 50 percent at present to 80-85 per cent by 1990 in the light industries and from 40-50 to 60-65 percent in the heavy industries.

Reportage on National Assembly Session

Second Day of Activities

BK240520 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 24 Dec 87

[Text] Today, 24 December, the Second Session of the Eighth National Assembly entered its second day of work, a Voice of Vietnam correspondent reported. According to the schedule, National Assembly deputies held group discussions on the Council of Ministers report on the 5-year 1986-90 and the 1988 socioeconomic development plans.

Deputies Hold Group Discussion

BK251149 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1120 GMT 25 Dec 87

[Text] On 24 and 25 December, National Assembly deputies held group discussion on the Draft Agrarian Law, the Draft Foreign Investment Law, the Draft Laws on Imported and Exported Commercial Goods, and the Draft Law on the Code of Criminal Procedure.

On the afternoon of 25 December, the National Assembly held its plenary meeting at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall. The National Assembly heard Chairman of the Economic, Planning and Budget Committee Vu Oanh deliver a report on the implementation of the 1987 State Plan and the CPV Central Committee Second Plenum's resolution on socioeconomic development for the 1988-90 3-year period and for 1988, and on the financial status of the nation. Chairman of the Nationalities Council Dam Quang Trung delivered a report on the 1988 State Plan for the strengthening, building, and consolidating the mountain regions of the ethnic minorities. Chairman of the Culture and Education Committee Tran Do delivered a report on the economic and financial mechanism for cultural and education activities and Chairman of the Science and Technology Committee Nguyen Dinh Tu delivered a report on the renovation of management, development of initiative, and the application of scientific and technological advances to the three major economic programs. Chairman of the Public Health and Social Welfare Committee Nguyen Thi Than delivered a report on a number of urgent issues for the public health, war invalids and social welfare, and

population planning activities. Chairman of the Committee for Youth, Teenagers and Children Vu Mao delivered a report on problem of providing jobs for young people.

Plenary Meeting Held

BK280529 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0500 GMT 28 Dec 87

[Text] This morning, 28 December, the Second Session of the Eighth National Assembly held its plenary meeting at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall. The National Assembly heard Comrade Vo Van Kiet, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and head of the State Planning Commission, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, answer questions raised by National Assembly deputies on the implementation of socioeconomic plans in accordance with the spirit of the Sixth CPV Congress resolution, and the implementation of the party Central Committee Second Plenum's resolution during the past period. The National Assembly deputies were requested to make their viewpoints on socioeconomic development targets set for 1988 and the 1988-90 3-year period. This afternoon, National Assembly deputies continue their work at the Ba Dinh Conference Hall.

Radio Carries Communiqué No 3

BK281456 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1430 GMT 28 Dec

[Communiqué No 3 of the Second Session of the Eighth National Assembly—date not given]

[Text] On 26 December 1987, National Assembly deputies worked in groups to study the Council of Ministers' report on the state plan, the state budget, and the implementation of the resolution of the party Central Committee's Second Plenum.

On the morning of 28 December 1987, the National Assembly held a plenary meeting at the conference hall to hear Vice Chairman of the Council of Ministers Vo Van Kiet answer, on behalf of the Council of Ministers, questions by National Assembly deputies. Afterward, the deputies worked in groups.

In the afternoon, the National Assembly held a plenary meeting at the conference hall to discuss the socioeconomic development plan for the 1988-90 3-year period and for 1988, the draft 1988 state budget, and the implementation of the party Central Committee's Second Plenum resolution. Toward the end of the meeting, the National Assembly elected Comrade Ha Quang Du head of the Committee for Youth, Teenagers, and Children to replace Comrade Vu Mao who was given a new assignment; and elected some additional members of the Nationalities Council, the various standing committees of the National Assembly, and the secretariat of National Assembly sessions.

Session Ends 29 December

*BK291208 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1144 GMT 29 Dec 87*

[Text] Dear friends: According to a Voice of Vietnam correspondent, after 7 days of work, the Second Session of the Eighth National Assembly closed with fine success at 1800 on 29 December, 1987.

Attending the closing sitting were Comrades Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the CPV Central Committee; Truong Chinh, adviser to the CPV Central Committee; Vo Chi Cong, chairman of the Council of State; Pham Hung, chairman of the Council of Ministers; and many other comrade party and state leaders.

Your are invited to listen to recorded reportage on the closing sitting of the Second Session of the Eighth National Assembly to be broadcast at 2130 [1430 GMT] tonight.

Decree on Registration, Certification Fees

*BK280410 Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese
11 Dec 87 p 4*

[Text] On 5 December 1987, the Council of Ministers issued a decree on registration and certification fees.

Regarding registration fees, the decree stipulates: All cases of transfer of right of ownership or use of property such as houses, land, automobiles, motorcycles, ships, or boats through purchase, sale, exchange, giveaway, or inheritance must go through registration procedures and fees must be paid to tax services. The rates to be collected are 3% of the property value for inheritance and 5 percent for purchase, sale, exchange, or giveaway.

Registration fee payers shall be responsible for making declarations and fee payments within 30 days from the date the processing of paperwork on property transfer first begins.

The decree also clearly points out: To be of legal value, all certified administrative, social, legal, and economic documents such as diplomas, personal records, grade transcripts, birth certificates, marriage certificates, court complaints, court decisions, economic contracts, property taxes... must be accompanied by fees ranging from 50 to 500 dong and stamps. Registration fees shall be collected by registration organs.

The Council of Ministers has instructed the Ministry of Finance to provide guidance on the implementation of this decree, which will go into effect beginning 1 January 1988.

Catholic Committee Greet Believers

*BK240935 Hanoi VNA in English 0720 GMT
24 Dec 87*

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 24—The Committee for Solidarity of Patriotic Vietnamese Catholics has sent a message to all Vietnamese Catholics in the country and abroad on the occasion of Christmas 1987.

The message praises contributions made by the Catholic clergy and laity to the common cause of national construction and defence, bringing a new image to the Vietnamese Roman Catholic Church as one of close identification of faith with the nation.

"At present the Vietnamese Catholics are looking forward with confidence to the future of religion and are proud of their chosen road: to live in accordance with the gospel and in the fold of the nation and to work for the happiness of the entire people," the message says.

Development of USSR Cooperation Overviewed

*BK221410 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
0015 GMT 22 Dec 87*

[Text] The true goal of Vietnamese-Soviet cooperation is to meet the demands of the peoples of the two countries for high quality consumer goods more adequately and to support Vietnam in resolving important socioeconomic problems. The comrade director general of the Soviet Federal Union of Cooperation in Foreign Trade and Light Industry, (Mikhail Rostel), said: Since 1986, Vietnamese shirts, women's dresses and overcoats, children clothes, and leather shoes have been sold in various shops in the Soviet Union. These have been produced under contracts between the Vietnamese and Soviet Ministries of Light Industry.

Regarding large lots of goods manufactured in Vietnamese factories, more than 2 million pairs of shoes and 380,000 clothing items have sold out quickly and have been appreciated by traders and consumers. Vietnamese tailors and shoemakers are turning out excellent quality goods made of Soviet materials.

This year, both countries intensified cooperation according to the plan for producing 6.5 million pairs of shoes and 17 million clothing items. Participating in business transactions based on a barter system, the Soviet side now has 39 ready-made clothing factories and 24 shoe factories in Moscow, Leningrad, Yaroslavl, Gorkiy, Novosibirsk, and other cities. On the Vietnamese side, there are 14 ready-made clothes factories and 6 shipyards in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh, Haiphong, and Da Nang cities.

It should be noted, regrettably, that the 1987 contracts were not fulfilled as expected due to many objective and subjective causes. The Soviet Merchant Ministry delayed their deliveries; at times, semi-products were shipped yet had a long wait at port before being delivered to Vietnamese enterprises.

We still have a lot to learn about the work methods required by the resolutions of the CPSU' 27th Congress and the Sixth CPV Congress. Moreover, according to the nomenclature [danh mucj] of products, by 1990, supply will increase by 2.5 to 3 times. Obviously, this increase can only happen if cooperation is being consolidated regularly. In this connection, this summer a delegation of Soviet tailors and shoemakers and a group of designers came to Vietnam. Also, many experienced Soviet experts are working in various ready-made clothing and shoe-making factories in Vietnam.

It is forecast that in the coming years, with Soviet assistance, 36 light industry enterprises in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh, and Haiphong cities will receive adequate equipment. Some other enterprises will be completely rebuilt. Both sides will establish direct ties of cooperation such as those between the shoemaking union of Leningrad (Koskrov) and the three factories of Hanoi and between the large union of ready-made clothing of Moscow and the various enterprises in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh cities. This cooperation will certainly benefit both sides.

Many enterprises in the Soviet Union have reduced their workload while their customers have received more quality goods. As for the Vietnamese side, through labor recruitment it will receive some Soviet materials to produce much sought after goods such as cars, cranes, bicycles, motorbikes, cameras, radios, watches, and other industrial goods.

The important point is that Vietnam can distribute Soviet orders to local industries, and in this way, develop the local industry. In the spirit of sentimental attachment, cooperation for mutual assistance, and sharing the results of fine achievements, Soviet and Vietnamese enterprises as well as the light industry of both countries will make a new step of development.

Joint Declaration on Afghan President's Visit
BK291048 Hanoi International Service in English
1000 GMT 29 Dec 87

[Text] A Vietnam-Afghanistan joint declaration was released in Hanoi on Tuesday [29 December] at the end of the official friendship visit to Vietnam by the party and state delegation of Afghanistan led by Muhammad Najibullah, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and president of the republic.

The declaration strongly condemned the imperialist and reactionary forces for intensifying their acts of intervention in the undeclared war against Afghanistan. The

Vietnamese side reiterated its support to Afghanistan's policy of national reconciliation. The Afghan side highly appreciated and fully supported the lines, policies, and fair and reasonable peace initiatives of Vietnam and the three Indochinese countries as a whole in their efforts to solve peacefully the problems of Southeast Asia and Kampuchea. The two sides expressed satisfaction at the signing of the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation and other bilateral agreements. They were convinced that the implementation of these treaty and agreements will mark a new development in the relations between Vietnam and Afghanistan.

The two sides highly valued and fully supported the Soviet Union's constructive initiatives for peace and disarmament. They noted that the recent Soviet-American treaty on the elimination of medium and short-range nuclear missiles constitutes a practical step of great importance toward nuclear disarmament.

The declaration expressed full support for the PRK's 27 August statement on national reconciliation and the 8 October statement on a political solution to the Kampuchea issue. They welcomed the fine success of the meeting between Mr Hun Sen and Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and the four-point joint communique signed in Paris on 4 December, considering it an important initial step in the process of negotiations between the Kampuchean parties toward a political solution to the Kampuchea issue.

The two sides expressed their desire to normalize and improve relations with the PRC, regarding it a positive factor for the consolidation of peace and security in Asia and international affairs in general. They reaffirmed their support for the peace-loving policy of India.

Foreign Ministry Holds News Conference
BK241415 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese
1100 GMT 24 Dec 87

["Some" questions and answers at the 24 December regular Hanoi news conference held by the Foreign Ministry Information and Press Department—read by announcer]

[Text] The AKAHATA correspondent asked: Does Vietnam have any hope for the coming meeting between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk?

Answer: The 4 December agreement between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk is an important initial step in the process leading to a political solution to the Cambodian issue. This shows that no force can prevent the Cambodian parties from peacefully solving the issue. This creates the basis and good prospects for the following steps. The most significant issue [vaans deaf] at present is that Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk have decided to continue their talks to discuss ways of solving the problem of their country in the spirit of

Cambodian national reconciliation. This meets the aspirations of the Cambodian people as well as of the three Indochinese peoples and is in conformity with the common trend in the region and the world. This is precisely the basis for creating favorable conditions for various meetings between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk to achieve successes.

The XINHUA correspondent asked: Does Vietnam have any observation about the recent ASEAN summit and its Manila statement?

Answer: At the 15 December ASEAN summit in Manila, regarding regional issues, the ASEAN states expressed their desire to turn Southeast Asia into a zone of peace, stability, and neutrality and free of nuclear weapons, and hailed the recent meeting between Chairman Hun Sen and Prince Sihanouk. This demonstrates the constructive nature of the Manila statement and shows that the trend of maintaining confrontation and tension is being pushed back and replaced by dialogue that is in conformity with the trend and the development of the present situation. It is hoped that the ASEAN states will make positive contributions towards a political solution to the problem of peace and stability in Southeast Asia, including the Cambodian issue.

The VNA correspondent asked if there was any comment on the Lao-Thai border situation.

Answer: As you comrades and friends know, on 15 and 16 December the Thai side sent aircraft to bomb the Boten area in the Lao province of Sayaboury. This serious move by the ultrarightist reactionaries in the Thai ruling circles violates the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the LPDR and the 1979 Lao-Thai joint statement, threatens peace and security of nations in the region, and runs counter to the trend of dialogue in Southeast Asia and the world. Vietnam supports the LPDR's attitude of goodwill and its correct stand and demands that the Thai side immediately end these wrongful actions and resume talks with the LPDR in order to resolve through peaceful means the outstanding problems between the two countries.

Deputy Minister Meets PLO Representative
BK241619 Hanoi VNA in English 1449 GMT
24 Dec 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 24—Tran Quang Co, alternate member of the CPV Central Committee and deputy minister for foreign affairs, received here today Sa'd Khalil al-Masri, acting representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) in Hanoi.

Speaking on the occasion, the Vietnamese deputy foreign minister reaffirmed the unswerving, total support of the Vietnamese party, government and people for the Palestinians' just struggle against the Israeli invaders, and for their inalienable rights. He vehemently condemned the

Israeli authorities and demanded that they put an immediate end to their criminal acts against the innocent Palestinians in their occupied areas.

NHAN DAN on Postelection Violence in ROK
BK250751 Hanoi VNA in English 1451 GMT
25 Dec 87

[Text] Hanoi, VNA Dec.25—Commenting on the recent presidential election in South Korea, NHAN DAN says the post-election demonstrations prove that the aspiration for democracy of the people runs very deeply and can be suppressed neither by force nor deceit.

The paper continues: "Workers, students, young people and the other forces of democracy refuse to accept the result which has brought to power a hand-picked man of Chon Tu-hwan, and who had been denounced as having played a key role in the bloody repression of students in Kwangju."

The paper says that if violence has been unable to suppress the people's aspiration for freedom and democracy in past decades, then, cajolery and deceptions will not be able to stamp it out now.

The South Korean people who have brought down three dictators will not accept another dictatorial regime. Their struggle for democracy remains difficult and complex. But recent election has taught them many lessons, especially the need to increase the force of solidarity.

"It is too early for the forces hostile to the people's aspiration for democracy to gloat over their disreputable victory," NHAN DAN says.

Pham Hung Receives Japanese Envoy 23 December
BK231549 Hanoi VNA in English 1524 GMT
23 Dec 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec 23—Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Hung received here today Japanese Ambassador Kagechika Matano who paid him a courtesy visit.

Vo Chi Cong Sends Condolences to Indonesia
BK270320 Hanoi VNA in English 1557 GMT
26 Dec 87

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec.26—State Council President Vo Chi Cong sent a message of sympathy today to President Suharto over the loss in property and lives caused by torrential rains and floods in the past two weeks to the population of Indonesia's Sulawesi Island.

Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach Visits Albania

For reportage on the visit by Foreign Minister Nguyen Co Thach and his accompanying delegation to Albania, see the Albanian section of the December 28 Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT.

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Jan 4, 1988

